

SUMMARY

**2009 and 2010 Part 1 Action Programme
covered by the 2007-2013 Strategy Paper
for the Thematic Programme ‘Investing in People’ under the Development
Cooperation Instrument**

1. IDENTIFICATION

Budget headings	21 05 01 Human and social development 21 05 01 01 Health 21 05 01 02 Education 21 05 01 03 Other aspects of human and social development 21 05 01 04 Gender equality 21 05 02 Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria
Total cost	EC contribution: EUR 131 345 806 from the 2009 budget appropriations and EUR 48 500 00 from the 2010 budget appropriations
Legal basis	Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 – Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI), OJ L 378, 18.12.2006, p. 41

2. THEMATIC BACKGROUND

This 2009 and 2010 Part 1 Action Programme sets out measures to implement the ‘Investing in People’ programme set out in Article 12 of the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)¹ and detailed in the *Strategy Paper and Multi-annual Indicative Programme for 2007-2010* adopted in May 2007². There are four main themes: (1) Good health for all; (2) Education, knowledge and skills; (3) Gender equality; and (4) Other aspects of human and social development (covering employment and social cohesion, children and youth, and culture).

This thematic programme supplements country cooperation by providing support for global or regional partnerships, direct agreements with international organisations, and calls for tenders and proposals, mainly to support the development of innovative policy action, exchanges to promote good practice and capacity-building, the development and introduction of ‘global goods’, and specific pilot programmes. The overall aim is to underpin synergy between the action supported on the different themes of *Investing in People*, other thematic programmes and the Community research framework programmes. Gender issues are mainstreamed in all programme activities.

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http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/legislation/legal_bases/documents/development_cooperation_en.pdf

² http://ec.europa.eu/development/policies/9interventionareas/humandev_en.cfm.

3. SUMMARY OF THE ACTION PROGRAMME

Theme 1: Good health for all

1.1 Strengthening health systems and services: EU response to the human resources crisis and emerging health problems

The specific objective of the 2009 and 2010 Part 1 programme is to engage civil society organisations to support national health workforce policies and strategies, build capacity and transfer skills. This will be done by launching a specific call for proposals from civil society organisations including professional associations, trade unions, and other non-State actors. Civil society organisations have traditionally contributed to health care by training health workers and providing staffed services in under-served communities. They bring the perspectives of users, health workers and under-served groups. They are therefore well placed to support and improve national health workforce strategies on pay and working conditions for human resources for health (HRH), on effective motivating factors and on equitable access to services.

Identified action: A call for proposals on ‘Engaging civil society organisations to support national health workforce policies, strategies, capacity building and skills transfer’ will be launched in the second half of 2009, with a budget of EUR 6 500 000 under 2009 appropriation and additional EUR 8 000 000 under 2010 appropriation, subject to the adoption of the 2010 budget by the Budgetary Authority (Annex A).

1.2 Confronting the main communicable (HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria), neglected and emerging diseases

The EC will continue to support efforts to reduce mortality rates and to mitigate the impact of AIDS, TB and malaria by contributing annually to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM). These three communicable diseases remain a major challenge for many of the EC partner countries in their efforts to achieve health-related MDGs by 2015.

Regarding non-communicable and neglected diseases, the programme will finance public health campaigns to raise awareness of and combat illnesses and risk factors related to life-styles and habits, such as smoking and alcohol abuse, unhealthy diets, and physical inactivity, lung disease, diabetes, cardio-vascular disease, obesity, mental illness, accidents and injuries. The burden of non-communicable diseases is gradually increasing in developing countries and accounted for 40% of the disease burden in 2005. Projections up to 2030 suggest that there will be a dramatic shift in the distribution of deaths from younger to older ages and from communicable, maternal, and perinatal to non-communicable causes. Tobacco-related deaths are projected to double by 2030. However, few initiatives have been directed at these risk factors and diseases to date. To this end the Commission will launch a pilot call for proposals from civil society and other non-State actors.

Identified actions:

1. A contribution of EUR 50 000 000 will be made to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFATM) under a tripartite contribution agreement (joint management with an international organisation) with the World Bank (WB) and the GFATM (Annex B).
2. A call for proposals on ‘Supporting prevention and control of non-communicable diseases in developing countries’ will be launched in the second half of 2009, with a budget of EUR 3 600 000 (Annex C).

1.3 Implementation of the Cairo Agenda (on reproductive health)

The Commission will support two interventions.

Firstly, the programme will contribute to increased access to quality reproductive health supplies for women and men in low- and middle-income countries by supporting the setting-up of an innovative procurement and financing mechanisms which could effectively address the lack of predictability of demand, volatile financing and fragmented procurement of RH supplies. According to demographers about one in four women of child-bearing age in sub-Saharan Africa has an unmet need for modern contraception and there is growing demand for reproductive health commodities both for family planning and for HIV/AIDS and STI prevention. However, recent studies show that funding for supplies has virtually stagnated since 2001, and developing countries are unable to access high quality RH commodities at the same prices as those obtained by major international organisations.

Secondly, the programme will continue to support civil society organisations' work on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) by launching a call for proposals targeting civil society and other non-State actors. This year the aim is to strengthen the work of civil society organisations in countries where the needs are greatest, including fragile States, to effectively advocate and lobby for the development and implementation of SRHR strategies for their populations, including adolescents, and to help to forge alliances at national level between international organisations, civil society and community-based organisations around these issues. Civil society has a critical role to play in advocating better policies and services and bringing about social and behavioural change, which is the key to development, and civil society organisations, including community-based organisations, are also major providers of SRH and HIV services, information and training at local, national and international levels.

Identified actions:

1. A EUR 2 500 000 contribution agreement (joint management with an international organisation) will be signed with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) for the project 'AccessRH' (reproductive health commodities - Annex D).
2. A call for proposals on 'Advocacy and technical support for the development of national SRHR strategies and specific actions' will be launched in the second half of 2009, with a budget of EUR 16 000 000 under 2009 appropriation and additional EUR 18 000 000 under 2010 appropriation, subject to the adoption of the 2010 budget by the Budgetary Authority (Annex E).

Theme 2: Education, knowledge and skills

2.1 Promoting equal access to quality education

The EC will continue to support efforts to achieve equal access to quality education by means of an annual contribution to the Catalytic Fund of the Fast Track Initiative (FTI), in order to speed up progress towards the core Education for All (EFA) goal of universal primary school completion.

The programme, in collaboration with UNESCO, will help identify key issues affecting qualified teacher supply, including best practice to influence policies at global, regional and national levels. It will: (1) support the dissemination of research and experience in addressing the challenges of teacher supply and shortages, from both Europe and developing countries, to inform policy makers, and (2) the follow-up of the EFA Oslo Declaration and Action Plan, so as to ensure effective global, regional and national action to address teacher shortages and quality education.

Identified actions:

1. A EUR 4 550 000 contribution agreement (joint management with an international organisation) will be signed with the World Bank, consisting of a further contribution to the Fast Track Initiative Catalytic Fund (FTI-CF) (Annex F).
2. A EUR 1 450 000 contribution agreement (joint management with international organisation) will be signed with UNESCO to provide, keep and reward good teachers (Annex G).

2.2 Improving opportunities for technical and vocational education and skills training (TVET)

TVET is an important part of the overall education system. Because it offers a wide range of people of different ages an opportunity to acquire technical skills and increase their employability, it is a significant factor in reducing poverty.

In 2009, the programme will address the training needs and deficits of people working in the informal economy, by supporting the development of activities that are more responsive to local labour market demand and produce relevant and useful professional skills in a flexible manner. A call for proposals will be launched to support the provision of appropriate training services to actual and potential workers and employers in the informal economy to improve their living and working conditions.

Identified action:

A call for proposals on 'Developing TVET methodologies and services for the informal economy' will be launched in the second half of 2009, with a budget of EUR 8 000 000 under 2009 appropriation, including EUR 1 950 000 out of the EUR 2 167 500 placed in reserve by the European Parliament under budget item 21.0501023, and additional EUR 9 000 000 under 2010 appropriation, subject to the adoption of the 2010 budget by the Budgetary Authority (Annex H).

Theme 3: Gender equality

3.1 Gender equality and women's empowerment

This component of the programme has two priorities in 2009.

Firstly, it will continue to support actions improving literacy among adult women and female property ownership, addressing inequalities and situations where women are severely affected by lack of access to education and literacy and to property rights. The budget of 2009 will be used to select more projects from the call for proposals set out in the 2008 Action Programme, which aimed to support non-State actors' efforts to influence their governments and decision-makers on women's property ownership and adult female literacy, especially by means of networking.

Secondly, it will strengthen the capacity of non-State actors to promote women's rights and gender equality in the 10 Mediterranean ENPI countries (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan,

³ This reserve aims to reinforce the democratic legitimacy of projects under the "Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean". More specifically, an agreement is requested by the Budgetary Authority regarding the incorporation of the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly into the institutional structure of the Union for the Mediterranean. The lifting of the reserve is subject to this condition being met.

Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Syria, Tunisia) and Mauritania (a member of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership).

Identified actions:

1. EUR 5 300 000 will be added to the call for proposals on ‘Supporting non-State actors in their efforts to fight adult women’s illiteracy and promoting women’s property ownership’. The additional 2009 appropriations were budgeted for in the 2008 Action Programme, which fully describes this action (Annex I).

2. A call for proposals on ‘Strengthening the capacity of non-State actors to promote women’s rights and gender equality in the 10 Mediterranean ENPI countries: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Syria and Tunisia, and Mauritania (a member of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership)’ will be launched in the second half of 2009, with a budget of EUR 4 300 000 under 2009 appropriation and additional EUR 3 500 000 under 2010 appropriation, subject to the adoption of the 2010 budget by the Budgetary Authority. (Annex J).

Theme 4: Other aspects of human and social development (social cohesion, employment and decent work; children and youth; culture)

4.1 Promoting social cohesion, employment and decent work

In 2009 the programme will focus on social inclusion of people excluded from the formal labour market and social protection schemes, targeting vulnerable groups and people working in the informal economy. A call for proposals will be launched to support poverty reduction for workers in the informal economy and vulnerable groups through the development of social services provision and social protection at community level, and to support the integration of active groups of the population in the labour market or, where appropriate, the provision of a basic income for a decent standard of living.

Identified action:

A call for proposals on ‘Support for social inclusion and social protection of workers in the informal economy and of vulnerable groups at community level’ will be launched in the second half of 2009, with a budget of EUR 10 000 000 under 2009 appropriation and additional EUR 10 000 000 under 2010 appropriation, subject to the adoption of the 2010 budget by the Budgetary Authority (Annex K).

4.2 Protection of children and youth and promotion of participation by children and youth in development

In 2009, the programme will focus on supporting the identification, development and implementation of models to facilitate meaningful participation by and formal representation of children in policies affecting their rights enshrined in the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The direct involvement of children in decision-making relating to their rights is crucial to ensure children’s policies are relevant. There is a need to create, improve and strengthen structures and outreach, and to involve formal constituencies representing children to achieve greater consistency, ownership and accountability in the fulfilment of children’s rights. The programme will support this important process by launching a call for proposals to sustain children in playing a leading role in their own development and the development of their own communities. The specific call for proposals will target children, non-State actors and public authorities that have been working towards the achievement of children’s rights and are therefore well placed to support and improve local, national and regional children’s representation.

Identified action:

A call for proposals on 'Children's Participation' will be launched in the first half of 2009, with a budget of EUR 11 000 000 (Annex L).

4.3 Access to local culture, protection and promotion of cultural diversity

The programme has two priorities.

Firstly, inter-cultural dialogue, cultural diversity and respect for the equal dignity of all cultures will continue to be supported, through a continued contribution to the call for proposals set out in the 2008 Action Programme (Annex M). The call addresses the following objectives: (1) strengthening local culture, access to culture and dissemination of culture and, in exceptional cases, supporting protection of cultural heritage in imminent danger; and (2) promoting all forms of cultural expression which contribute to the fight against discrimination, be it gender-based, ethnic, religious, as well as discrimination recognised in traditional and customary practices.

Secondly, the programme will support the restoration and rehabilitation of old Havana. Given that bilateral cooperation with Cuba was resumed in October 2008, funding is not available yet under EC bilateral programming. The aim under the thematic programme is to save cultural heritage in imminent danger in Havana city centre by restoring the Palacio del Segundo Cabo, which is a national protected landmark. Under the 1972 Convention, ratified by Cuba in 1981, the Old City of Havana and its fortifications have been on the World Heritage List since 1982.

Identified actions:

1. EUR 5 400 000 of the 2009 appropriation will be added to the call for proposals 'Access to local culture, protection and promotion of cultural diversity', which is fully described in the 2008 Annual Action Programme (Annex M).
2. A EUR 1 100 000 contribution agreement (joint management with an international organisation) will be signed with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to contribute to the 'Rehabilitation of cultural heritage in old Havana — Palacio del Segundo Cabo' (Annex N).

4. PAST EC ASSISTANCE AND LESSONS LEARNT

In previous thematic programmes, the EC funded actions on health, especially sexual and reproductive health, communicable diseases and health-related research programmes, and on gender equality and education. These thematic areas were subject to internal and external evaluations, such as the *Second Progress Report on the EC Programme for Action: Accelerated action on HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis in the context of poverty reduction*⁴; the *Thematic Evaluation of Population and Development-oriented Programmes in EC External Cooperation*⁵; the *Joint Evaluation of External Support to Basic Education in Developing Countries*⁶; the *Evaluation of the Integration of Gender in EC Development Cooperation with third Countries*⁷; the *Evaluation of EC cooperation with ACP/ALA/MED*

⁴ SEC(2004) 1326.

⁵ http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/evaluation/evaluation_reports/2004/951649_docs_en.htm.

⁶ http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/evaluation/evaluation_reports/2003/951659_docs_en.htm.

⁷ http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/evaluation/evaluation_reports/2003/951644_docs_en.htm.

*countries in the health sector*⁸; and the *Evaluation of EC support to the Education Sector in ACP countries*⁹. These evaluations have been drawn on in drafting the new programme 'Investing in People'.

Previous thematic programmes were implemented through global partnerships, targeted actions and broad calls for proposals. Joint management with international organisations remains an important strategic mode of implementation in the new programme. This channel has notably enabled the EC to contribute to global initiatives such as the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and malaria, and the EFA Fast Track Initiative, and to support international and regional advocacy events or programmes, e.g. on gender equality, or to promote the development of methodology and implementation tools in several areas such as decent work and children's rights.

Calls for proposals have been used more systematically, notably as a way to finance grass-roots initiatives to meet the specific objectives defined for each theme, to build the capacity of civil society organisations, and to encourage innovative projects and experience sharing. Calls used to be launched on a yearly basis, which resulted in a high number of good proposals which could not be funded given the limited available budgets. Two-year calls foreseen under this programme will therefore increase funding possibilities under each call as well as the predictability of our interaction with implementing partners, while optimising the use of budgetary and human resources allocated to the programme.

Regarding health more specifically, the European Court of Auditors' Special Report No 10/2008 on *EC Development Assistance to Health Services in Sub-Saharan Africa*¹⁰, released in January 2009, recommends using the project approach especially for support for health policy development and capacity building, pilot interventions and assistance to poorer regions. To this end, the calls for proposals under the 'Good health for all' theme are strategically focused to support non-State actors and capacity building for civil society, so as to effectively lobby and advocate for policy changes and better services, with the focus on fragile States and poorer regions.

5. COMPLEMENTARY ACTIONS

Actions included in this Programme complement the various EC financial and technical cooperation instruments, including both geographic and thematic programmes.

⁸ http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/evaluation/evaluation_reports/2002/951589_docs_en.htm.

⁹ http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/evaluation/evaluation_reports/2002/951629_docs_en.htm.

¹⁰ <http://eca.europa.eu/portal/pls/portal/docs/1/2020216.PDF>.

6. COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

This Action Programme will be published on EuropeAid's website once the Commission Decision on its adoption has been taken (around April 2009).

Projects selected under this programme will be compliant with the *Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions*¹¹.

7. COST AND FINANCING

Theme	Annex	Action	2009 Amount (EUR)	2010 Amount (EUR)
Health				
	<u>A</u>	Call for proposals on 'Engaging civil society organisations to support national health workforce policies, strategies, capacity building and skills transfer'	6 500 000	8 000 000
	<u>B</u>	Contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria (WB)	50 000 000	
	<u>C</u>	Call for proposals on 'Supporting prevention and control of non-communicable diseases in developing countries'	3 600 000	
	<u>D</u>	Support for AccessRH (UNFPA)	2 500 000	
	<u>E</u>	Call for Proposals on 'Advocacy and technical support for the development of national SRHR strategies and specific actions'	16 000 000	18 000 000
	<u>O</u>	Support measures (Health)	295 806	
		Sub-total Health	78 895 806	26 000 000
Education				
	<u>F</u>	Contribution to the FTI Catalytic Fund (WB)	4 550 000	
	<u>G</u>	Providing, keeping and rewarding good teachers (UNESCO)	1 450 000	
	<u>H</u>	Call for proposals on 'Developing TVET methodologies and services for the informal economy'	8 000 000	9 000 000
	<u>O</u>	Support measures (Education)	450 000	
		Sub-total Education	14 450 000	9 000 000

¹¹

http://www.cc.cec/dgintranet/europeaid/info_com/visibility_issues/documents/communication_and_visibility_manual_en.pdf.

Gender				
	<u>I</u>	Call for proposals on ‘Supporting non-State actors in their efforts to fight adult female illiteracy and promoting women’s property ownership’	5 300 000	
	<u>J</u>	Call for proposals on ‘Strengthening the capacity of non-State actors to promote women’s rights and gender equality in the 10 Mediterranean ENPI countries: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Syria and Tunisia, and Mauritania (a Member of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership)’	4 300 000	3 500 000
	<u>O</u>	Support measures (Gender)	400 000	
		Sub-total Gender	10 000 000	3 500 000
Other aspects of human and social development				
Social Cohesion, Employment & Decent Work	<u>K</u>	Call for proposals on ‘Support for social inclusion and social protection of workers in the informal economy and of vulnerable groups at community level’	10 000 000	10 000 000
Children and youth	<u>L</u>	Call for proposals on ‘Children’s participation’	11 000 000	
Culture	<u>M</u>	Call for proposals on ‘Access to local culture, protection and promotion of cultural diversity’	5 400 000	
	<u>N</u>	Rehabilitation of cultural heritage in old Havana (Palacio del Segundo Cabo) (UNESCO)	1 100 000	
	<u>O</u>	Support measures (other aspects)	500 000	
		Sub-total Other	28 000 000	10 000 000
TOTAL			131 345 806	48 500 000

In addition to the specific actions detailed in section 3, EUR 1 645 806 have been allocated for support measures (including EUR 217 500 out of the EUR 2 167 500 placed in reserve by the European Parliament under budget item 21.050102). This amount will be used e.g. for support measures such as audits, evaluations, monitoring, studies, conferences, publication and information. (Annex O)

Within the maximum indicative budget for all the specific actions, cumulative changes not exceeding 20% of the maximum Community contribution are not considered substantial, provided they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the Annual Action Programme.

The authorising officer may adopt such changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management.

The financing decision for the 2009 and 2010 Part 1 Action Programme will be made when the Commission has adopted the 2010 Preliminary Draft Budget. Therefore, subject to the adoption of the 2010 general budget of the European Community by the budgetary authority:

- A provisional amount of EUR 8 000 000 will be added to finance selected projects under the Call for Proposals referred to in Annex A (Health workers), and a provisional amount of EUR 18 000 000 will be added to finance selected projects under the call for proposals referred to in Annex E (reproductive health), to be financed from budget item 21.050101 of the general budget of the European Communities for 2010.
- A provisional amount of EUR 9 000 000 will be added to finance selected projects under the call for proposals referred to in Annex H (TVET), to be financed from budget item 21.050102 of the general budget of the European Communities for 2010.
- A provisional amount of EUR 3 500 000 will be added to finance selected projects under the call for proposals referred to in Annex J (Gender equality — ENPI), to be financed from budget item 21.050104 of the general budget of the European Communities for 2010.
- A provisional amount of EUR 10 000 000 will be added to finance selected projects under the call for proposals referred to in Annex K (Social inclusion), to be financed from budget item 21.050103 of the general budget of the European Communities for 2010.
- The addition of 2009 credits to the budget for the call for proposals launched under 2008 credits for Culture (Annex M) will be duly reported as an exception in the authorising officer's report for 2009.

Out of the 2009 commitment appropriation of budget item 21.050101, an amount of EUR 2 000 000 will be committed separately later on in 2009, as an individual financing decision. This amount, foreseen to fund a targeted project to assist country driven technical support planning and implementation in the area of HIV/AIDS (currently under development), is therefore not covered by the 2009 and 2010 Part 1 Action Programme.

ANNEX A

THEMATIC PROGRAMME *INVESTING IN PEOPLE*THEME 1.1: *GOOD HEALTH FOR ALL*

STRENGTHENING HEALTH SYSTEMS AND IMPROVING HEALTH SERVICES: EU RESPONSE TO THE HUMAN RESOURCES CRISIS AND EMERGING HEALTH PROBLEMS

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title	Engaging civil society organisations to support national health workforce policies, strategies, capacity building and skills transfer		
Total cost	EUR 14 500 000: EUR 6 500 000 under 2009 appropriation + EUR 8 000 000 (provisional ¹) under 2010 appropriation		
Method/ Management mode	Project approach — Call for proposals — <i>Centralised management (direct)</i>		
DAC code	12281 12110	Sector	Health personnel development Health policy and administrative management

2. RATIONALE

The thematic programme ‘Investing in People’ pursues a broad approach to development and poverty reduction, with the general aim of improving human and social development levels in partner countries in accordance with the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals. It is based on Article 12 of the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)², and is detailed in the *Strategy Paper for the Thematic Programme 2007-2013*³. Under the theme ‘Good Health for all’, it addresses four key health areas: human resources for health (HRH); poverty-related and neglected diseases; sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR); and a balanced approach to prevention, treatment and care.

In 2006, the EC adopted a ‘Programme for Action on the Crisis in Human Resources for Health in Developing Countries 2007-2013’⁴ as a coordinated response to the decade of action on human resources 2006-16 proposed by the 57th World Health Assembly. This committed the EC to increased development assistance, long-term aid flows, and action on HRH at country, regional and global levels. A survey of member countries was carried out in 2008 to assess progress⁵. The survey found substantial support had been given to HRH at all three levels, but there was little coordination between member countries, and inadequate capacity for policy dialogue.

HRH shortages and imbalances in low- and middle-income countries are producing a crisis in delivery of and access to services. Recent studies conducted to estimate human resource

¹ Subject to the adoption of 2010 budget.

² Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, OJ L 378, 27/12/2006, pp. 41-71.

³ http://ec.europa.eu/development/policies/9interventionareas/humandev_en.cfm.

⁴ European programme for action to tackle the critical shortage of health workers in developing countries 2007–2013. COM(2006)870.

⁵ European programme for action to tackle the critical shortage of health workers in developing countries (2007–2013). Progress report on implementation. Doc. No 135/08 DEVGEN.

requirements to reach the Millennium Development Goals have shown large gaps between current supply and projected needs. Some of the factors contributing to the HRH crisis are low government spending on health care, inadequate pay and working conditions and ineffective management of health personnel. Shortages are being exacerbated by the increasing need for health staff to provide care for AIDS and other new and re-emerging diseases and also by an increased demand for health professionals in high-income countries, which is being met partly by staff from poorer countries.

Civil society organisations have traditionally contributed to health care by training health workers and providing staffed services in under-served communities. In recent years there has been a shift towards a more rights-based approach to development, and therefore more importance is given to civil society's roles in policy-making and advocacy, and advancing the entitlements of different groups⁶. The EC Programme highlights the importance of civil society in country-level HR policy and planning. The renewal of Primary Health Care principles also brings an emphasis on participation by civil society institutions in policy dialogue and accountability mechanisms (WHO 2008)⁷.

Civil society organisations and networks bring the perspectives of users and health workers, and often multisectoral experience and skills. They frequently represent under-served groups in communities. They are therefore well placed to support and improve national health workforce strategies on pay and working conditions for HRH, on effective motivating factors and on equitable access to services.

The world HRH shortage is estimated at more than 4 million health workers, including a lack of at least 1.5 million in Africa⁸. A 70% increase worldwide in doctors, nurses and midwives is needed to reach the minimum 2.5/1000 population. Some countries with the worst shortages are Malawi with 0.02 doctors and 0.6 health workers per thousand inhabitants, Tanzania with 0.02 doctors and 0.4 health workers/1000, Chad with 0.04 and 0.6, and Vietnam with 0.5 and 1.3. African countries have the worst relative shortages, while Asian countries have the largest shortages. Qualitative aspects of the HR crisis include lack of supervision, poor HR management skills and practice, and extreme demotivation of health personnel⁹.

The EC is committed to responding to the HRH crisis at national, regional and global levels consistent with the Kampala Declaration and Agenda for Global Action on HRH⁷ as adopted at the first Global Forum on HRH organised by Global Health Workforce Alliance in Kampala, Uganda in March 2008 and recognised in the G8 Communiqué⁸ of June 2008 as the guiding tools for coordinated actions.

Accordingly, the EC has identified support for HRH policy, planning and training needs assessment as a priority and wishes to involve professional associations, trades unions, and other civil society organisations. It is the view of the EC that an effective way to retain key health professionals is to ensure that local working conditions offer an attractive alternative to emigration. The EC wishes to support incentive schemes, improved career opportunities, better terms and conditions of service and consultation with health workers to determine the

⁶ WHO 2001 Strategic alliances: The role of civil society in health, Civil Society Initiative. WHO Geneva Discussion Paper No 1 CSI/2001/DP1.

⁷ WHO, 2008, Primary Health Care — Now More Than Ever, the World Health Report 2008.

⁸ GHWA 2008 Global Health Workforce Alliance; www.who.int/workforcealliance.

⁹ WHO, 2006, Working together for health, World Health Report — World Health Organization, Geneva.

⁷ <http://www.who.int/workforcealliance/Kampala%20Declaration%20and%20Agenda%20web%20file.%20FINAL.pdf>

⁸ http://www.g8summit.go.jp/eng/doc/doc080714__en.html — point 46b.

most appropriate incentives (European programme for action, 2006). EC Member States are currently supporting HRH programmes but gaps have been identified in coordination and in research to inform policy-making, training and new ways to encourage retention (Progress report on implementation, 2008).

This call for proposals therefore aims to engage civil society organisations and non-state actors (NSAs) in tackling the HRH crisis through capacity building, policy dialogue, and operational research that will lend support to the attainment of the Kampala Declaration and Agenda for Global Action.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSAL(S)

3.1. Basic act and financing source

Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, Article 12(2)(a).

This Action will be financed from Budget Article 21.0501 – Human and social development, Item 21.050101 – Health

3.2. Objectives of the programme, fields of intervention/priorities of the year and expected results

The objective of the call is to enhance the advocacy skills of civil society organisations and other non-State actors on human resources issues, advocate for policy development, implementation and monitoring, and improve knowledge of HRH at country and regional level.

Action on the following themes can be financed:

1. Building advocacy skills, capacity and knowledge among civil society and non-State actors, including professional associations and recruiting agencies, on HRH issues.

The actions financed could, for example, include: regional knowledge exchange and generation; networking; training and workshops; and monitoring of HRH policies, practices and other related information at country level.

2. Advocacy interventions and training targeted for public sector including line ministries and other relevant public sector responsible for or related to management of human recourse, training and budgeting.

The following activities can be financed: different types of advocacy work, events, workshops, meetings and campaigns aimed at informing people of best practice on HRH; training, including quality assurance mechanisms such as peer review and certification and training for better human resource planning and management; option appraisal and costing of HRH policies and implementation, including workforce scale-up and retention; and multi-sectoral engagement of health, labour, education and financing professionals to address HRH constraints.

3. Operational research into (a) good HR planning and management; (b) training and skills transfer; and (c) socio-economic determinants of HR shortage including gender aspects and their influence on HR development, all aimed at improving the performance and motivation of health workers and contributing to better understanding of HRH challenges and to the development of sustainable solutions to the needs of individual countries.

Actions could, for example, include developing and demonstrating different training programmes or incentives for the retention, return and engagement of workers from the

diaspora; operational research on twinning, exchange and scholarship programmes; e-learning, e-health, training initiatives; south-south and north-south cooperation, etc.

This call for proposals is expected to help civil society organisations become better equipped, form a stronger coalition and actively engage in dialogue with their governments and the authorities on HRH policies. It is also expected that public sector authorities will be more committed to tackling the HRH crisis and that operational research on specific actions will contribute to scientific knowledge of good practice in solving the HRH crisis which can be incorporated into country HRH plans and disseminated to the global community.

The target groups are civil society and decision makers in government, local and other authorities. The ultimate beneficiaries are people in HRH crisis countries obtaining a stronger health sector.

Priority will be given to actions in developing countries where the need for human resources for health is greatest.

Given that the call aims to enhance advocacy skills among civil society organisations on human resources issues, priority will be given to action led by non-State actors and local authorities, particularly those from the country or countries where the action takes place. This will also ensure greater ownership and sustainability. International organisations, public bodies and private companies are excluded as applicants; however, they may take part as partners or as associates.

Partnership is strongly recommended so as to meet more efficiently the capacity building needs of NSAs. Attention must be paid to the quality of partnership. Applicants from the EU and the EEA or a country eligible under the reciprocal access rules must act in partnership with one or more organisations from the beneficiary countries eligible under the DCI.

3.3. Eligibility conditions

Action may be taken in one or more beneficiary countries eligible under the DCI. In specific and limited cases, part of the activity may take place in EU Member States.

Eligibility will be defined in the call guidelines, on the basis of Article 24 of the DCI and of the above objectives.

3.4. Essential selection and award criteria

The criteria for awarding grants are laid down in the Practical Guide to Contract Procedures for EC external actions.

The maximum rate of co-financing for grants is 80%. Full financing may be given only in cases provided for in Article 253 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulations, where financing in full is essential to carry out the action in question.

Grants awarded under this call are expected to fall between EUR 300 000 and EUR 1 500 000.

The indicative duration of projects is three years maximum.

3.5. Schedule of calls for proposals

The call for proposals is expected to be published in the second half of 2009 and in any case after the decision on the preliminary draft budget 2010.

3.6. Indicative amount of call for proposals

The budget for the call is EUR 6 500 000 from 2009 appropriations. Subject to adoption of the 2010 General Budget of the European Communities by the budgetary authority, EUR 8 000 000 from budget item 21.050101 of the 2010 budget may be added to finance selected projects under this call for proposals.

4. SUPPORT MEASURES

The selected projects will include a clear visibility and communication plan in accordance with the *Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions*¹⁰.

Monitoring and evaluation plans will also be foreseen in each project. European Commission Delegations will be involved as much as possible in the monitoring process.

In addition, projects might be subject to European Commission audits and monitoring visits under EuropeAid's annual result-oriented monitoring and audit plans.

The European Commission may hold a seminar to disseminate results and lessons learned among contract holders and other stakeholders.

¹⁰ http://www.cc.cec/dgintranet/europeaid/info_com/visibility_issues/documents/communication_and_visibility_manual_en.pdf.

ANNEX B

THEMATIC PROGRAMME *INVESTING IN PEOPLE*THEME 1.2: *GOOD HEALTH FOR ALL*

CONFRONTING MAIN COMMUNICABLE (HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND TUBERCULOSIS), NEGLECTED AND EMERGING DISEASES THROUGH THE SUPPORT OF ACCESS TO PREVENTION, CARE, TREATMENT, CARE AND SUPPORT

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title	<i>2009 annual contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFATM)</i>		
Total cost	EC contribution: EUR 50 000 000		
Method/ Management mode	Project approach – Joint management with an international organisation (World Bank – the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria)		
DAC code	12250	Sector	Infectious disease control

2. RATIONALE

2.1. Sector context

Confronting HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis remains a major challenge for many developing countries in the effort to achieve health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. These diseases severely undermine overall human and social development efforts. In 2000, the Commission redefined its role and accelerated its response to fight HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis in a coherent and comprehensive framework¹. Based on this framework, in 2001 the Commission adopted a Programme for Action² to improve the effectiveness of existing initiatives targeting the major communicable diseases and poverty reduction, make pharmaceuticals more affordable and support research and development on global public goods to confront these diseases.

EC policy on HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis is further spelled out in the Commission communication adopted in October 2004 *A coherent European policy framework for external action to confront HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis (TB)*³. In April 2005, the Commission adopted a new Programme for Action, *A European programme for action to confront HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis through external action 2007-2011* (COM/2005/179 final), which proposes a series of actions at both country and global levels. The actions at country level include capacity building, enhancing human resources capacity to mitigate brain drain, broad cooperation between stakeholders, investing in social services and surveillance, monitoring health outcomes, and strengthening local production capacity for pharmaceutical

¹ *Accelerated action targeted at major communicable diseases within the context of poverty reduction* (COM (2000) 585).

² *Programme for action on communicable diseases in the context of poverty reduction* (COM(2001) 96).

³ COM(2004) 726 final. Point 4.2.2 clearly states: 'The EC will increase funding support to confronting the three diseases through innovative action. The global fund has proven to be a comparatively fast way of channelling EC funds into confronting the three diseases at country level and has already shown key results'.

products. Proposed actions at global level cover five areas: affordable pharmaceutical products, strengthening regulatory capacity in developing countries; developing new tools and interventions, strengthening partnerships with multilateral agencies and other institutions, and maintaining a strong European voice at G8 and EU summits. A major objective of the programme is to increase efforts to scale up interventions that have shown results.

The response to HIV/AIDS and other poverty diseases such as malaria and tuberculosis is an important part of the EC/EU development agenda as outlined in the European Consensus on Development and in the Joint Statement signed on 20 December 2005⁴, which states that the Commission will support the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM).

In line with the Programme of Action and the European Consensus and Joint Statement, the thematic strategy *Investing in People* will channel health sector support in 2009 to programmes and initiatives to improve access to prevention, treatment, care and support around the world through a financial contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM).

The Fund is a public-private partnership and global financial instrument designed to make available and leverage additional financial resources to fight HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

2.2. Lessons learnt

By the end of 2007, GFATM grants had provided more than 1 million people with ARV treatment for AIDS, 9.4 million people with counselling and voluntary HIV testing, more than 3.3 million people with treatment under the DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment, Short Course) strategy for tuberculosis control, and more than 46 million insecticide-treated mosquito nets to families⁵.

The Global Fund has approved a total of US\$10.8 billion to more than 550 grants in 136 countries, including the latest grants to receive approval for Phase 2 funding (years three to five of the grant lifespan). Of the US\$10.8 billion approved, US\$5.5 billion have been disbursed to public and private recipients in 136 countries, and 87 percent of approved grants have signed grant agreements⁶. Up to April 2008, 61% of GFATM resources had been committed to AIDS programmes, 14% to TB and 25% to malaria. Moreover, 45% of the grants were used for commodities and drugs, and 23% to finance human resources. In this context, the Fund offers potential benefits in ensuring commodity security.

For the Commission, there are two main challenges to further improve the performance and results of the Global Fund:

- The Fund needs to better guarantee that actions at country level are implemented in an integrated manner, achieving a better balance between health systems and disease-specific interventions. This would improve the response capacity of health systems as a whole and would contribute to avoiding bottlenecks or the diversion of scarce means to specific diseases.
- The Commission needs to further involve Delegations in country discussions and ensure more complementarity and coherence between Global Fund actions and the Commission's / Member States' initiatives at country level, while taking account of the actions of other donors.

⁴ COM(2006) C46/01, OJ (2006 / C 46/01).

⁵ The Global Fund, *Monthly Progress Update*, 24 April 2008.

⁶ The Global Fund, *Monthly Progress Update*, 24 April 2008.

In early 2007, the Fund Board agreed upon a strategy⁷ to 2010 reflecting the Global Fund's commitment to refining its procedures to better meet the needs of its grant recipients. The strategy will undergo a mid-term review in 2009, which will benefit from inputs from the five-year evaluation of the Global Fund and the 2008 Partnership Forum⁸.

The Board will guide the strategy implementation, providing additional policy direction where needed (such as for health systems strengthening and national strategy applications) or reviewing early experiences to decide how to proceed with a full-scale expansion (such as for grant consolidation, combining several grants into a single grant).

Within its strategy, the Global Fund has outlined the following:

- The demand for Global Fund financing could increase to US\$6 billion per year in 2010 and potentially reach US\$8 billion per year by 2010.
- It is necessary to better align with country cycles and procedures, by combining multiple grants into a single grant; fixing the rounds dates to increase the predictability of funding; and allowing flexibility in the timing of the Phase 2 review.
- The Fund should help address procurement-related⁹ implementation issues by: setting up a voluntary pooled procurement service, administered by one or more procurement agents, which will combine the purchases of many grantees; offering capacity-building services for procurement; and strengthening the Price Reporting Mechanism (PRM);
- The Fund should provide support for strengthening countries' health systems to maximise effective delivery of services to combat AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, and should further develop arrangements for such financing¹⁰.
- With a view to ensuring sustainable funding and improving participatory ownership of national health programs, it is necessary to:
 - incentivise country stakeholders to develop national strategy applications;
 - allow applications to continue funding high-performing grants for up to six years through the Rolling Continuation Channel, a streamlined process operating on a quarterly schedule;

⁷ *A Strategy for the Global Fund: Accelerating the effort to save lives*, <http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/publications/other/strategy/>.

⁸ The five-year evaluation is the first systematic external assessment of the Global Fund, and is due to be completed by the end of 2008 and published in February 2009. It will examine a number of questions relevant to this strategy: the extent to which the Global Fund reflects its founding principles (particularly acting as a financing instrument rather than as an implementing agency, and furthering country ownership); how effective and efficient the Global Fund's partnership approach has been at both global and national levels; and the Global Fund's contribution to reducing the overall burden of the three diseases.

The 2008 Partnership Forum will bring together thousands of stakeholders in the Fund, including many country-level implementers, to discuss progress and provide feedback.

⁹ In this regard, the Fund is studying the possibility of hosting the **Affordable Medicines Facility for Malaria (AMFm)**, which is intended to increase the use of ACTs and other effective antimalarial combinations, and to eliminate the use of ineffective drugs and artemisinin monotherapies by co-paying (as global buyer) for antimalarial combinations requested by first-line buyers in the public, private, and NGO sectors in all malaria-endemic countries at a competitive price. Moreover, to help limit resistance to second-line anti-tuberculosis pharmaceuticals, the Global Fund requires procurement of pharmaceuticals to treat MDR-TB to occur through the **Green Light Committee (GLC) of the Stop TB Working Group** on drug-resistant tuberculosis, which has an agreement with the pharmaceutical industry to receive preferential prices for second-line anti-TB drugs.

¹⁰ Inter alia, the last GFATM round of calls for proposals offer the possibility of supporting health systems strengthening (HSS) cross-cutting interventions, which benefit more than one of the three diseases.

- recommend that proposals to the Global Fund include Principal Recipients (PRs) from both the government and nongovernment sectors;
- strengthen community systems and favour an increased representation of vulnerable groups in the Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCMs); and
- improve access to funding for CCM administration and increased transparency about civil society access to such funding.

2.3. Complementary actions

The support for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria is complemented by an additional contribution from the EDF. The Commission intends to continue contributing EUR 100 million annually shared equally between the budget line for Investing in People and the 10th EDF Intra-ACP funds.

Between 2001 and 2008, the Commission gave the GFATM EUR 672.5 million, EUR 330 million from the EDF and EUR 342.5 million from the Community budget.

The Fund complements the ongoing and often substantial investment by bilateral and multilateral donors and development banks. In sub-Saharan Africa, the Fund may contribute a large proportion of the total in-country investment particularly for malaria and TB. Donors will continue to contribute to improving outcomes for the three diseases through multiple instruments, including technical assistance, targeted projects and budgetary support. Country proposals for financing from the Fund are submitted through a Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM), a grouping of all stakeholders active in the efforts to fight the three diseases. This maximises the Fund's potential to support additional investment, fill gaps in the national responses and complement the efforts of others.

2.4. Donor coordination

The Global Fund has signed the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. It harmonises donor contributions to a common, untied fund at international level, and reflects many of the Paris principles in its funding documents. The Global Fund, with other global initiatives, is tracking indicators related to the Paris principles and learning lessons from putting the principles into practice. The Global Fund is fully committed to this effort by:

- working with the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to develop and implement the survey instrument to track progress in reaching the Paris Declaration targets;
- representing the global initiatives, including the GAVI Alliance, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and the Education for All-Fast Track Initiative (EFA-FTI) in the Paris process;
- publishing baseline data and monitoring Global Fund results and 2010 targets; and
- participating in the Measurement Working Group.

As a financing mechanism, the Global Fund works closely with other multilateral and bilateral organisations involved in health and development issues to ensure that newly funded programmes are coordinated with existing ones. In many cases, these partners participate in local Country Coordinating Mechanisms, providing important technical assistance for the development of proposals and implementation of programmes.

The Commission has coordinated a supportive European stance towards the Fund and held the seat of Vice-Chair of the Board until March 2007. It is currently represented in the Board by the Directorate-General for Development. In addition, it is a member of the Board's Policy and Strategy Committee and represented in the Finance and Audit Committee by a member of

the constituency formed together with Portugal, Belgium and Finland. Other EU Member States are represented on the Board though constituencies they may have formed with their partners. All views expressed by the Commission on the Board are closely coordinated with the constituency members.

3. DESCRIPTION

3.1. Objectives

The overall objective of this intervention is to contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (1, 4, 5 and 6)¹¹ by reducing the number of cases of ill-health, death and disability due to HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis and hence their impact on society.

The specific objective is to mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

3.2. Expected result and main activities

The Fund provides resources to enable beneficiary countries and their development partners to scale up defined national responses to the three diseases.

The expected result is:

- Increased coverage and utilisation of effective interventions and greater commodity security to fight the three diseases in the poorest developing countries

The GFATM is a financial instrument, not an implementing entity. It makes available and leverages additional financial resources to fight HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria through supporting programmes that reflect national ownership and respect country-led formulation and implementation processes.

The Secretariat of the GFATM will launch rounds of calls for proposals on a regular basis¹², and will award and manage grants according to a transparent process, following the guidance and decisions of the Fund Board.

The Fund has defined a combination of eligibility criteria, including the disease burden for HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria and relevant poverty indicators. It encourages new and innovative alliances among partners within recipient countries and seeks the active participation of local representatives of civil society and the private sector in the CCM. The Fund also encourages interventions focused on strengthening national, sub-national and community systems to increase the demand for, access to, and the quality of, services and equal access to services by women and men of all ages and by key affected populations and sexual minorities. This approach serves not only to foster effective disease-specific strategies but also to support efforts to strengthen underlying health systems in recipient countries, consistent with national strategic plans.

Within the proposal the grantee is expected to indicate baseline data, targets and key indicators. The Global Fund requires Principal Recipients (organisations in the CCMs) to report results on a regular basis, and these reports are verified by independent consultants known as Local Fund Agents (LFAs). This enables the Global Fund to ensure that funds

¹¹ MDG 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
MDG 4: Reduce child mortality
MDG 5: Improve maternal health
MDG 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases (see <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/bkgd.shtml>).

¹² The Round 8 call for proposals was launched in March 2008 with a deadline of 1 July 2008, and a final decision on the proposals to be funded was made at the Fund Board of November 2008.

channelled through the Fund Trustee are reaching those for whom they are intended and are being spent efficiently. This system of performance-based funding also allows the Global Fund to react quickly should problems arise.

It acts as an important signal to industry of commitment to purchase thus providing incentives for development of new commodities and price reductions.

Activities that may be supported by the Fund include: increased access to health services; provision of critical health products including drugs (like bed nets, condoms, antiretroviral, anti-TB and antimalarial drugs, treatment for sexually transmitted infections, laboratory supplies and materials, and diagnostic kits); training of personnel and community health workers; behaviour change and outreach; and community-based programmes including care for the sick and orphans.

3.3. Stakeholders

The Fund is governed by an international **Board** consisting of nineteen voting members and four non-voting members. Voting members include government representatives from donor and recipient countries and representatives from affected communities, private sector businesses, philanthropic foundations and NGOs. Representatives of UNAIDS and the World Health Organisation (WHO) also participate as ex-officio (non-voting) members, as does the World Bank, which serves as the Fund's trustee. The Board is advised by a number of committees set up to address any specific areas of difficulty or complexity that may arise. Currently, they include committees on Ethics, Policy and Strategy, Finance and Auditing, and Management of the Portfolio. The EC is directly and substantially involved with the Board Committee on Policy and Strategy (in a constituency with Portugal, Belgium and Finland).

The Fund's **Secretariat** is responsible for day-to-day operations, including mobilising resources from the public and private sectors, managing grants, providing financial, legal and administrative support, and reporting on the Fund's activities to the Board and the public.

To support the Fund in financing effective programmes, the Board relies on an independent panel of international experts on health and development. **The Technical Review Panel (TRP)** reviews eligible grant proposals for technical merit (soundness of approach, feasibility and potential for sustainability). Based on this review the TRP recommends proposals for funding to the Board.

The Partnership Forum meets every two years, gathering together a broad range of global stakeholders to discuss the Fund's performance and to make recommendations on its strategy and effectiveness.

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) operates as an independent unit of the Fund, reporting directly to the Board. The overall and primary purpose of the OIG is to provide the Fund with independent and objective oversight to ensure the integrity and effectiveness of its programmes and operations, including compliance with policies and procedures. The OIG assists the Fund in protecting assets and preventing and detecting fraud, waste, abuse, malfeasance or mismanagement.

The OIG has two specific responsibilities: investigation of potential fraud, abuse, misappropriation, corruption and mismanagement of funds; and audit and inspection of activities and transactions to assess the effectiveness of internal controls and to identify areas that will enable the Fund to achieve better results.

The Technical Evaluation Reference Group (TERG) is an advisory body providing independent assessment and advice to the Board on issues that in its view require the Board's

attention. The Board also directs the TERG to examine specific programmatic aspects of the Fund, as appropriate. The TERG advises the Secretariat on evaluation approaches and practices, independence, reporting procedures and other technical and managerial aspects of monitoring and evaluation at all levels. The members of the TERG are drawn from a range of stakeholders, including practitioners, research institutions, academics, donor and recipient countries, and non-governmental organisations. They are nominated and confirmed by the Board.

Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCMs) are central to the Fund's commitment to local ownership and participatory decision-making. These country-level partnerships develop and submit grant proposals to the Fund based on priority needs at national level. After the approval of grants, they oversee the progress during implementation.

The CCMs include representatives from both the public and private sectors, including governments, multilateral or bilateral agencies, non-governmental organisations, academic institutions, private businesses and people living with the diseases.

EC delegations are in a number of cases members of CCMs, playing a very active role in certain countries in collaboration with the Member States.

For each grant, the CCM nominates one or more public or private organisations as the **Principal Recipient**.

The Fund does not have a country-level presence beyond its offices in Geneva, Switzerland. Instead, it hires **Local Fund Agents** to oversee, verify and report on grant performance. Local Fund Agents are selected through a competitive bidding process.

The Fund normally has one Local Fund Agent in each country where it has approved a grant. This gives it access to local knowledge that may be relevant to grant performance. There are some cases, however, where it is not possible to have a Local Fund Agent in the country. In these cases, the Local Fund Agent is based in a nearby country and flies in from time to time to verify grant implementation.

3.4. Risks and assumptions

The Fund seeks to minimise transaction costs while maintaining adequate safeguards to ensure that funds are used effectively and achieve results. The Fund provides resources for the first two years of what will normally be part of a five-year programme. This will be subject to satisfactory arrangements in place for local fiduciary procedures, procurement and monitoring. The continued provision of resources for the third year and beyond will be subject to the demonstration of results and the ability to absorb available resources.

3.5. Cross-cutting issues

The Fund is increasing interventions targeting women and children, who are particularly vulnerable to HIV and malaria infections. Mother/child transmission together with social norms and behaviours and the persistence of gender inequalities have an important impact on the spread of these diseases, in particular HIV/AIDS, which need to be addressed by the Fund through specific measures.

The Global Fund recognises that gender issues play an important role in the fight against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria and is putting in place a programme to reinforce its gender focus in the Secretariat's internal mechanisms and operations. The programme includes developing a gender policy and appointing a gender focal point to operationalise and monitor the policy. The policy focuses on systematic training on gender issues linked to the

three diseases for all Secretariat staff in order to strongly enhance sensitivity. Gender expertise within Global Fund structures have also been strengthened, for example through revised composition guidelines for the Country Coordinating Mechanisms and a review of the Technical Review Panel's membership. There is also a need to strengthen and mainstream gender in the Global Fund Secretariat's operations. In this regard, and in the light of country-level evidence, strategic partnerships are being scaled up and innovative approaches to more comprehensive Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Family Planning programmes are being encouraged. Additional criteria for grant eligibility, monitoring and evaluation is being developed to measure gender sensitivity, and additional guidelines on indicators to address gender equality and sexual and reproductive health will be included in the Monitoring and Evaluation Toolkit.

4. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

4.1. Implementation method

The contribution to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) involves joint management with the World Bank (pooling of the resources of several donors — Articles 53 and 165 of the Financial Regulations and Article 43 of the Implementing Rules).

4.2. Procurement and grant award procedures

All contracts implementing the action must be awarded and implemented in accordance with the procedures and standards as laid down and published by the Fund.

Grants will be awarded by the Fund to the selected projects following international calls for proposals and approval by the Board of the Fund.

Authorising Officer proposes the application of the Global Trust Fund's procurement and grant rules on the basis of his own evaluation and comparison, which allows him to deem that their procurement and grant rules are in accordance with the provisions laid down in Article 56(2) of the Financial Regulation.

4.3. Budget and calendar

A budgetary commitment will be made for the EUR 50 million contribution, which will be disbursed in one or two payments to constitute part of the pool of financial resources of the Fund.

The indicative duration of execution of the contribution is 12 months.

4.4. Performance monitoring

The performance of the Fund is monitored at six-month intervals by assessing the result against a set of indicators agreed by all stakeholders. The top ten service indicators used for routine reporting include: the number of people currently receiving antiretroviral (ARV) therapy, the number of new TB cases detected¹³, successfully treated or enrolled for multidrug-resistant treatment, the number of insecticide-treated bed nets distributed to people, the number of people receiving anti-malaria treatment, the number of people counselled and tested for HIV, including provision of results, the number of HIV-positive pregnant women receiving a complete course of ARV prophylaxis to reduce mother-to-child transmission

¹³ Indicators are classified according to the Funds classification and differs in some extent from those of the Commission. For example TB detection rate is outcome indicator under the Commission's classification.

(PMCT), the number of condoms distributed to people, the number of people benefiting from community-based programmes, the number of people receiving treatment for infections associated with HIV and the number of service deliverers trained.

The Global Fund has also adopted some impact indicators to be used mainly for medium-term reporting (one to five years). These indicators include: the percentage of people aged 15-24 who are HIV-infected (HIV prevalence) applicable to most-at-risk populations in concentrated/lower epidemics; the percentage of people still alive 12 months after initiating ARV treatment (reduced mortality); the percentage of infants born to HIV-positive mothers who are HIV-infected (reduced mother-to-child-transmission); the percentage of people aged 15-24 who had sex with more than one partner in the last year; the percentage of people aged 15-24 with no regular partner in the last year who used consistently condoms; the percentage of people aged 15-19 who never had sex (primary abstinence) or aged 15-24 who had no sex in the last year (secondary abstinence); the TB detection rate and TB treatment success rate; the estimated number of active TB cases per 100 000 people (TB prevalence rate); the number of malaria-associated deaths; and the incidence of clinical malaria cases.

Individual funded projects are monitored regularly. The monitoring to measure performance begins at the time of grant agreement signing, when targets and indicators are agreed upon between recipients and the Global Fund. Only those grant recipient that can demonstrate measurable and effective results from the funds received will be able to receive additional funding.

4.5. Evaluation and audit

The individual grant projects are evaluated as part of the contract agreements between principal recipients and the Fund. The latter also commissions independent evaluations of the project, while the Fund itself is evaluated at five-year intervals.

Since the five-year lifecycle of the first grants is nearing completion, the Global Fund has launched a five-year evaluation. Under the independent oversight of the Global Fund's Technical Evaluation Reference Group (TERG) and with the support and participation of 25 countries, the evaluation examines the Global Fund's organisational efficiency, the effectiveness of its partner environment and the combined impact that the Global Fund, domestic investments, and other donors have had on the reduction in burden of AIDS, TB and malaria.

The examination of the Global Fund's organisational efficiency and its partnership environment ('Study Area 1') was presented in November 2007. The examination of impact on the three diseases is far more extensive and required ongoing efforts at country level throughout 2008. The final evaluation report is planned to be presented in 15 February 2009.

The Fund's accounts are audited annually by independent auditors.

4.6. Communication and visibility

The Community's visibility, pivotal leadership, and fund mobilisation and monitoring role in the GFATM is strengthened through active participation in the Board and in the Board's Policy and Strategy Committee as well as through the Country Coordination Mechanisms of individual countries.

ANNEX C

THEMATIC PROGRAMME *INVESTING IN PEOPLE*THEME 1.2: *GOOD HEALTH FOR ALL*

CONFRONTING MAIN COMMUNICABLE (HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND TUBERCULOSIS), NEGLECTED AND EMERGING DISEASES THROUGH THE SUPPORT OF ACCESS TO PREVENTION, CARE, TREATMENT, CARE AND SUPPORT

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title	Supporting prevention and control of non-communicable diseases in developing countries		
Total cost	EUR 3 600 000		
Method/ Management mode	Project approach — Call for proposals — <i>Centralised management (direct)</i>		
DAC code	12261	Sector	Health education

2. RATIONALE

The thematic programme ‘Investing in People’ pursues a broad approach to development and poverty reduction, with the general aim of improving human and social development levels in partner countries in accordance with the *United Nations Millennium Declaration* and the Millennium Development Goals. It is based on Article 12 of the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)¹, and is further defined in the *Strategy Paper for the Thematic Programme 2007-2013*². Under the theme ‘Good Health for all’, it addresses four key health areas: human resources for health (HRH); poverty-related and neglected diseases; sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR); and a balanced approach to prevention, treatment and care. This latter applies to all diseases — emerging, communicable and non-communicable.

The Commission Development Policy Paper ‘Health and Poverty Reduction in Developing Countries’ (COM 129 (2002)) states that ‘the most substantial portion of the disease burden of the poor is represented by a continuing high toll of illnesses and premature death from a small number of preventable or manageable conditions including lifestyle-related illness’, particularly those caused by increasing use of tobacco in developing countries (causing cancer, cardio- and cerebro-vascular, and lung disease). The WHO presented a discussion paper on ‘Public Policy and the Challenge of Non-communicable Diseases in the ACP Countries’ at the First Meeting of ACP Ministers of Health (Brussels, 25-26 October 2007). The ‘Brussels Declaration on Health for Sustainable Development in ACP States’ adopted at the meeting recognises the magnitude of and trends in non-communicable diseases in ACP countries and stresses the importance of strengthening health systems to prevent and control non-communicable diseases. Similarly, the communiqué issued at the conclusion of the ‘CARICOM³ Heads of Government Summit on Non-communicable Diseases’ (12 September

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, OJ L378, 27/12/2006, pp. 41-71.

² http://ec.europa.eu/development/policies/9interventionareas/humandev_en.cfm.

³ The Caribbean Community and Common Market

2007, Port of Spain) recognised non-communicable diseases (NCD) as the major cause of sickness and death in the Caribbean region, and stressed their socioeconomic consequences.

The burden of NCD is gradually increasing in developing countries and accounted for 40% of the disease burden in 2005. Projections to 2030 suggest that there will be a dramatic shift in the distribution of deaths from younger to older ages and from communicable, maternal, and perinatal to non-communicable causes. Tobacco-related deaths are projected to double by 2030 and reach nearly 7 million in low- and medium-income countries (LIC and MIC)⁴. Tobacco use is a major contributing factor to lung disease, some types of cancer and cardiovascular disease, such as stroke and coronary disease. Diabetes type II is increasingly affecting even the poor population. Unhealthy diets and physical inactivity contribute to high blood pressure and raised blood glucose and lipids, as well as overweight and obesity. Many countries face a rising toll from the adverse health impact of indoor pollution from charcoal and firewood use for cooking, drug abuse including alcohol, violence and conflict, injuries, and accidents. Mental illness is in many developing countries a neglected and very common cause of ill health, with unipolar depressive disorders estimated as the third-biggest factor in the global burden of disease and very often underestimated and neglected in developing countries. Addressing these illnesses and risk factors, many of which are related to lifestyles and habits, implies major changes — both collective and individual. These efforts need to start with estimating the scale of the problem, raising awareness of the issues and introducing policy changes and action.

On the policy front, there have already been some developments: a Global strategy on non-communicable diseases was developed in 2000, a WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control was agreed upon in 2003 and a Global strategy on diet, physical activity and health (DIPAS) outlined in 2004 followed by a Global strategy on harmful use of alcohol in 2008. In 2008 the World Health Assembly adopted the 2008-2013 Action Plan for the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases with six clear objectives. These include (i) raising the priority given to NCDs; (ii) incorporating NCD prevention and control into policies across government sectors; (iii) setting national policies for NCDs; (iv) promoting action to reduce the main common modifiable risk factors for NCDs: tobacco use, unhealthy diets, physical inactivity and harmful use of alcohol; (v) promoting partnership on the prevention and control of NCDs; and (vi) monitoring NCDs.

The disease-oriented approach to health in development assistance has led to the proliferation of disease-specific programmes but very few initiatives have been directed at non-communicable diseases, mental illness and injuries in developing countries⁵. Like other diseases, they suffer from the weakness of the health systems in many low- and middle-income developing countries.

Some international initiatives have been taken: the WHO is currently implementing a package of six cost-effective tobacco control policy measures (the MPOWER package) in 15 countries (Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Vietnam, as well as Poland); the Global Alliance against Chronic Respiratory Diseases (GARD) is working on raising awareness of the lung disease and its consequences among both the public and health professionals; and the Environmental Department of the WHO is addressing indoor pollution mainly caused by the use of firewood for cooking and heating indoors in LIC, through its Programme on Indoor Pollution. Activities aimed at tobacco control are also strongly supported by Bloomberg Global Initiatives and the Gates Foundation and by limited support from a number of bilateral

⁴ Mathers C, Loncar D. (2006) Projections of Global Mortality and Burden of Disease from 2002 to 2030. *PLoS Medicine* 3:2011-2030.

⁵ Ref. Unger: How could disease-specific programs strengthen health systems delivering comprehensive health care? Report for DG DEV.

donors. Apart from tobacco, the WHO has initiated national capacity-building on the four diseases (cancers, cardio-vascular diseases, chronic respiratory obstructive diseases and diabetes) and the risk factors in a number of countries (Bhutan, China, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, the Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Uganda). The WHO has also launched the mental health Gap Action Programme (mhGAP) which aims at scaling up services for mental, neurological and substance use disorders, especially in low- and middle-income countries. The programme asserts that with proper care, psychosocial assistance and medication, tens of millions could be treated for depression, schizophrenia, and epilepsy, prevented from suicide and begin to lead normal lives — even where resources are scarce.

However, all these intervention programmes are in the very early stages and to a large extent depend on what the countries themselves can implement within their limited resources.

In spite of these efforts there is still a lack of popular knowledge of many of these diseases in developing countries. For example, a recent study of the awareness of diabetes in India showed that this was very poor. This is likely the case for other diseases, too, and perhaps particularly for mental illnesses in LICs and MICs.

In this context, the EC recognises the need for reinforced support for interventions on non-communicable diseases in developing countries and intends to launch a call for proposals to support piloting and demonstration of public health promotion actions on these diseases.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSAL(S)

3.1. Basic act and financing source

Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, Article 12(2)(a).

This Action will be financed under Article 21.0501 – Human and social development, Item 21.050101 – Health.

3.2. Objectives of the programme, fields of intervention/priorities for the year and expected results

The overall objective of the call is to contribute to reducing ill health in developing countries caused by non-communicable and lifestyle-related diseases such as cancer, cardio-vascular disease, lung disease, diabetes, injury and mental illness.

Specific objectives

(1) Build capacity within a country/district to develop, implement and monitor comprehensive action plans aiming at promoting healthy behaviour and lifestyle.

(2) Contribute, through support for operational research, to the development of efficient, applicable and comprehensive health promotion activities which target the main health risk factors in a community, such as tobacco, alcohol and drugs abuse, unhealthy diet, and physical inactivity, but also accidents, injuries and mental illness.

The actions to be financed could, for example, consist of the following: operational research; data collection (baseline studies, surveys, etc); capacity building and policy advocacy; action supporting the design, implementation and monitoring of country policy on non-communicable diseases; small-scale piloting or demonstrating of innovative health promotion actions; training; the design and production of campaign material; public campaigns; south-south and north-south cooperation; or public-private partnerships.

The projects are expected to work in cooperation with the public sector, mesh with existing country policies on non-communicable diseases and be in line with the relevant WHO guidelines: the 2008-2013 Action Plan for the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases; the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control 2003; the Global Strategy on diet, physical activity and health (DIPAS) outlined in 2004 and the 2008 Global strategy on harmful use of alcohol.

It is expected that after the intervention the knowledge of NCD and lifestyle-related risks among the target population will have increased; the public sector will be better able to promote healthier lifestyles and to provide support and care; and small-scale and target-group-specific health promotion programmes will have been developed and tested to contribute to the evidence base.

The target groups for the programme are civil society and other non-state actors and decision makers in government and local authorities in developing countries. The beneficiaries are people in developing countries benefitting from health information and lifestyle change.

Given the innovative nature of the call, priority will be given to non-State actors and local authorities, particularly those from the relevant country or countries where the action takes place. This will also ensure greater ownership and sustainability. However, international organisations may also apply. Public bodies and private companies are excluded as applicants; however, they may take part as partners or as associates.

Partnership is strongly recommended so as to meet more efficiently the capacity building needs of NSAs. Attention must be paid to the quality of the partnership. Applicants from the EU and the EEA or a country eligible under the reciprocal access rules must act in partnership with one or more organisations from the beneficiary countries eligible under the DCI.

3.3. Eligibility conditions

Action may take place in countries eligible under the Development Cooperation Instrument.

Eligibility will be defined in the call guidelines, on the basis of Article 24 of the DCI and the above objectives.

3.4. Essential selection and award criteria

The criteria for awarding grants are laid down in the Practical Guide to Contract Procedures for EC external actions.

The maximum rate of co-financing for grants is 80%. Full financing may be given only in cases provided for in Article 253 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulations, where financing in full is essential to carry out the action in question.

Grants awarded under this call are expected to fall between EUR 300 000 and EUR 1 000 000.

The indicative duration of projects is three years maximum.

3.5. Schedule of calls for proposals

The call for proposals is expected to be published in the second half of 2009.

3.6. Indicative amount of call for proposals

The available total budget for the call is EUR 3.6 million.

4. SUPPORT MEASURES

The selected projects will include a clear visibility and communication plan in accordance with the *Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions*⁶ Monitoring and evaluation plans will also be foreseen in each project. European Commission Delegations will be involved as much as possible in the monitoring process.

In addition, projects might be subject to European Commission audits and monitoring visits under EuropeAid's annual results-oriented monitoring and audit plans.

The European Commission may hold a seminar to disseminate results and lessons learned among contract holders and other stakeholders or an external end-of-programme evaluation after all the projects have been implemented and the scientific/final reports are available, in 2013 at the earliest.

⁶ http://www.cc.cec/dgintranet/europeaid/info_com/visibility_issues/documents/communication_and_visibility_manual_en.pdf.

ANNEX D

THEMATIC PROGRAMME *INVESTING IN PEOPLE*

THEME 1.3: *GOOD HEALTH FOR ALL*

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CAIRO AGENDA INCLUDING PROVISION OF COMMODITIES AND SUPPORTING CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS IN THE COUNTRIES WITH THE WORST INDICATORS

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title	Support for AccessRH		
Total cost	Indicative total cost: EUR 6 600 000 EC contribution: EUR 2 500 000 (37.88% of IP)		
Method/Management mode	Project approach — Joint management with an international organisation (UNFPA)		
DAC code	13010	Sector	Population policy and administrative management

2. RATIONALE

2.1. Sector context

The thematic programme ‘Investing in People’ pursues a broad approach to development and poverty reduction, with the general aim of improving human and social development levels in partner countries in accordance with the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals. It is based on Article 12 of the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)¹, and is detailed in the *Strategy Paper for the Thematic Programme 2007-2013*². Under the theme ‘Good Health for all’, it addresses four key health areas: human resources for health (HRH); poverty-related and neglected diseases; sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR); and a balanced approach to prevention, treatment and care. Basing its action on the full Cairo agenda, the Community continues to be one of the driving forces in the field of SRHR and is committed to upholding the principles agreed upon at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and at the ICPD+5.

The project supports EC efforts in pursuit of Millennium Development Goals (MDG) 5 and 6, outlined in the EU Agenda for Action on MDGs adopted in June 2008, by providing better access to better quality, more sustainable reproductive health (RH) commodities for family planning and prevention of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS, thus improving maternal health and combating HIV/AIDS. Better access to RH commodities also has a positive effect on child health (MDG 4) directly or indirectly through safer pregnancies, fewer maternal deaths due to unwanted pregnancies and fewer adverse effects on babies as a result of STIs.

The AccessRH project is an innovative project that also supports the above goals and tackles situations in countries where the indicators show that sexual and reproductive health (SRH) conditions are very poor. The project supports governments in their efforts to provide all women, especially poor women in such countries, more consistently with quality reproductive health supplies, thus lowering the risk of unwanted pregnancies and untimely death in childbirth.

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, OJ L 378, 27/12/2006, pp. 41-71.

² http://ec.europa.eu/development/policies/9interventionareas/humandev_en.cfm.

The world has never experienced a larger population of young people under 18 than today, but not enough attention is given to these young people's sexual behaviour and needs. A recent study by the renowned Guttmacher Institute³ in four African countries has shown that very young teenagers are already sexually aware and that older teens are sexually active, usually before marriage. Also it is clear that there is a lack of accurate information on sexuality issues, especially among girls.

Nearly one fifth of the worldwide burden of disease and early death is due to poor sexual and reproductive health. Among women of reproductive age that figure rises to a third, while in Africa, due to high AIDS prevalence and high rates of pregnancy, the figure rises to around 60%. According to demographers, close to 20% of women of child-bearing age in developing countries have an unmet need for modern contraception. In sub-Saharan Africa about one in four women is considered to have an unmet need for modern contraception.

In line with this there is a growing demand for reproductive health commodities for both family planning and HIV/AIDS and STI prevention. A recent analysis by the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) shows that funding for supplies has virtually stagnated since 2001⁴. Increasingly donors, especially the EU, are using direct budget support as their preferred aid modality, in line with the Paris Agenda for Aid Effectiveness, which advocates ownership by partner countries. This means that developing countries are encouraged to develop their own procurement and supply capacity to meet their needs. Often, however, they are unable to access high-quality RH commodities at the same prices as those achieved by major international organisations. One of the problems with the provision of reproductive health commodities has been the lack of predictability of demand and security of supply. RH commodities are sometimes out of stock or too costly for clients to buy. Limited access to products can reduce a community's confidence in the health system. From a market perspective, fragmented orders and no access to volume discounts have resulted in higher prices and suboptimal delivery terms. Lack of long-term planning and forecasting can also result in over-ordering or irregular delivery, leading to wastage. All these situations have prevented potential clients from accessing needed reproductive health supplies, with such consequences as unwanted pregnancies and even death.

2.2. Lessons learnt

The proposed project is strategic and innovative and will provide a follow up to the lessons learned during the implementation of the Commission's support to International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and the UNFPA (Programme for assistance to ACP countries in need of achieving Reproductive Health Commodity Security⁵) to fill the financing gap ('decency gap') created when the US reintroduced the so-called 'gag rule' in 2003, thus blocking access to US funding by several family planning organisations and the UNFPA due to claims of participation in coercive abortions (This rule was ended in January 2009 by President Obama). The EC is involved in the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition as a member of the Executive Committee and has contributed to the Coalition's work through the EC study on Reproductive Health Commodity Security⁶.

Securing RH supplies has faced two major supply-driven challenges — unpredictable and volatile financing and fragmented procurement. From a financing perspective it is well-known that donor funding has been highly volatile and variable, which has had an adverse impact on end users. Commodity purchasing has also been fragmented, resulting in suboptimal pricing.

³ Heather D. Boonstra, 'Young people need help in preventing pregnancy and HIV; how will the world respond?' in *Guttmacher Policy Review*, Volume 10, No 3.

⁴ UNFPA Donor Support for Contraceptives and Condoms for STI/HIV Prevention 2007.

⁵ 9 ACP RPR 38, Joint ACP/UNFPA/EC.

⁶ SANTE/2005/112-022 and 105-181.

A number of important studies have been done over the last few years (DfID, Mercer, McKinsey, JSI/Deliver)⁷ to articulate the problem, analyse the situation and look for possible solutions. These studies have all concluded, in increasing levels of detail, that innovative procurement and financing mechanisms could effectively combat the problems outlined above, together with improved sharing and use of information for these functions. AccessRH has been designed in the light of these findings, which have been reinforced most recently by a study by Dalberg⁸ that produced an implementation plan for such a mechanism.

2.3. Complementary actions

The Commission is an active member of and donor to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFATM), which targets prevention of communicable diseases as one of its main objectives. The GFATM will benefit from the results of AccessRH in terms of improved RH commodity security and procurement.

There is also a definite link with the support the Commission is giving through its calls for proposals on SRHR in Investing in People, which mostly emphasises issues such as influencing policy, advocacy, peer education, and SRH education in schools.

AccessRH is complementary to numerous multilateral, bilateral and country initiatives to enhance reproductive health commodity security and to increase the effective provision of key global public health commodities. For example, AccessRH aligns with and complements:

- UNFPA’s Global Programme on Reproductive Health Commodity Security;
- key financing institutions such as the World Bank, in its support for strengthening procurement capacity in low- and middle-income countries,
- USAID’s global contraceptive procurement programme and its supply chain management programme known as the USAID | DELIVER PROJECT, operated by John Snow, Inc.;
- DfID’s Medicines Transparency Alliance (MeTA), which focuses on improving accountability and governance in medicine procurement;
- GFATM’s new voluntary pooled procurement initiative, which essentially functions similarly for non-reproductive health commodities;
- Malaria No More’s planned initiative to secure better prices for higher volume through pooled procurement of long-term insecticide-treated nets;
- RHInterchange (RHI), currently funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, a web-based information source that consolidates procurement and shipment information from multiple donors.

2.4. Donor coordination

The project is an optimal form of donor coordination in that it will be both funded and championed by multiple donors and also require their active commitment and participation. It brings RH supplies donors together and it will increase developing countries’ ownership regarding RH commodities. Overall, the goal is to give countries access to better quality stocks, better delivery terms and/or lower prices and, when fully operational, the ability to place orders directly with suppliers via the AccessRH platform. This innovative initiative is the outcome of consultative work by different stakeholders in the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition⁹ aimed at solving the problems of shortfalls and availability gaps of

⁷ DfID: *RH Commodity Security: Adequacy of the International Architecture for Finance and Supply*, 2005; Mercer, *Contraceptive Availability Study: Methodology and Key Findings*, 2005; McKinsey, *Reproductive Health: Financial Mechanism Analysis*, 2006; JSI/Deliver, *Synthesis of Field Advisor Observations on AccessRH and PGH Draft Report*, 2006.

⁸ Dalberg, *AccessRH / PGH Mechanism Design & Pilot*, 2008.

⁹ www.rhsupplies.org. The coalition’s partners include stakeholders such as the foreign ministries of France, Netherlands, Spain and Denmark, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, DFID, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the WB, the WHO, the UNFPA,

reproductive health commodities in developing countries. By aggregating demand across donor-funded and developing-country procurement authorities, and providing an upfront commitment to suppliers through framework contracts, AccessRH is able to access improved pricing and delivery terms and provide quality assurances to a broad set of customers.

3. DESCRIPTION

This action concerns support for the setting-up of AccessRH, which is an innovative mechanism for reproductive health commodity (RHC) procurement and will be operated as a new business line¹⁰ within the UNFPA. The UNFPA, as the main UN organisation working on sexual and reproductive health and providing public RH commodities, is the most relevant body to manage this intervention: its Procurement Services Branch (PSB), in the Division for Management Services, will manage the intervention. The UNFPA Executive Board and the donors directly supporting AccessRH will be responsible and accountable for the intervention and for decision-making on strategy, finances and management. The Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition will continue to play a role in stakeholder engagement and communication.

AccessRH will negotiate annual or bi-annual agreements with suppliers of reproductive health commodities (RHCs) with a guaranteed minimum volume and potentially including an incentive- and performance-based structure. This minimum volume will be based upon prudent forecasts of demand for the UNFPA and other participating partners. This will give participating partners and countries access to quality-assured RHCs at lower prices than they are able to access at the moment. It will also help to reduce uncertainty for manufacturers and thus lead to more readily available supplies, reducing lead times and the incidence of stock-out.

Initially, in the start-up stage, only UNFPA volumes will be used, but as the mechanism becomes fully operational the project is intended to include other partners and governments. It is anticipated that some participants will eventually be in position to place and manage their own orders directly with suppliers under the terms and conditions of the AccessRH agreements. Various alternatives to ensure the future sustainability of the mechanism will be explored at later stages of the projects. Nevertheless, the expectation is that the total cost of RHCs will be somewhat lower for participants using this facility. Alternatively, participants may use a procurement agent, of which the UNFPA is but one.

At the end of the three-year period, AccessRH will have gained a clear understanding of the extent to which it might be self-funding or whether some further, but reduced donor support or other resources are required. In a longer-term perspective, AccessRH will have the potential to develop into an e-market place for RHCs if this is what partners should want. In addition, if successful, the e-platform could also serve as one expanded e-platform to meet the transactional needs of other partners also embarking on similar commodity security initiatives focused on improving the availability of key public health commodities.

the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria and a large number of different NGOs. The EC is part of the Coalition and a member of the Executive Committee.

¹⁰ The UNFPA currently handles two types of procurement of RH commodities: (a) procurement on its own behalf (through UNFPA Country Offices), and (b) procurement on behalf of third parties, for whom the UNFPA acts as a procurement agent. The establishment of AccessRH will eventually lead to a third type of operation (or business line) which will allow other customers, such as country Ministries of Health, NGOs, etc. to use the mechanism to place and manage their own orders directly with suppliers under the terms and conditions of the AccessRH agreements.

Objectives

The **overall objective** is to contribute to increased access to quality RH supplies for women and men in low- and middle-income countries.

The **specific objectives** of the intervention are:

- to establish the AccessRH mechanism as part of UNFPA business lines;
- to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of procurement of RH commodities; and
- to support country ownership and strengthened country procurement systems.

3.1. Expected results and main activities

The expected results in terms of the overall objectives are:

- increased access to favourable pricing and delivery terms;
- improved product quality consistency;
- increased supplier commitment;
- increased timeliness, accuracy and completeness of data for RH supply chain decision making.

Using UNFPA Interim Funding, an Interim AccessRH Manager has been put in place who will recruit three other staff. This Interim Team will be in place for six months with a remit to turn the high-level Implementation Plan into a practical working mechanism addressing all of the above and more. It is unlikely that the work will be completed in 6 months; however, by that time the AccessRH Team will have been recruited and put into place. The team should be fully operational by the end of 2009.

The main activities to be undertaken by the operational team are:

- establish the mechanism as a product offered by the UNFPA;
- establish framework agreements and develop and manage the supplier network;
- design and manage an IT platform to ensure the timeliness, accuracy and visibility of supply chain management functions including order needs projections, ordering, procurement, shipment, and receipt;
- operate AccessRH to service UNFPA country offices;
- operate AccessRH to service purchases financed by other means;
- develop and support an increasing customer base for AccessRH, including developing conditions of participation, thereby leveraging growing supply volumes with targeted marketing and ongoing customer relationship management;
- pursue a learning agenda that explores:
 - the impact of AccessRH on market growth;
 - developing an expanded model for key commodity categories;
 - extending the offering to include electronic procurement;
 - examining the fee structure for cost recovery/sustainability.

An implementation plan drafted by Dalberg Consultants¹¹ will be refined into an operational plan. The Plan currently includes drafts of preliminary information flows, finance flows, organisational structure, job descriptions, and contracting strategies, amongst other things.

3.2. Risks and assumptions

The major risks are at two levels: customer commitment and supplier participation. The risk at customer commitment level is that countries may lack the capacity to provide accurate forecasts or utilise the mechanism. The AccessRH Project will mitigate this risk by outreach,

¹¹ Dalberg: 'AccessRH / PGH Mechanism Design & Pilot', 2008.

paying attention to the user interface and providing capacity-building support. In addition, the assumption is that UNFPA and USAID project country offices will support the adoption and use of AccessRH. The risk is at supplier participation level is whether suppliers will see value in participating. Initial market analysis indicates that the suppliers are interested in some form of framework agreement that provides more predictable orders and hence enables them to plan their production capacity, but this risk will need to be vigilantly monitored.

In addition to the major challenges to the concept of the mechanism, there are operational risks. These include the mechanism's potential risk of not meeting the minimum volume for which the UNFPA will establish contracts and the possibility of non-payment by any non-UNFPA purchasers through the mechanism.

Other risks are related to market dynamics, such as limited competition between pre-qualified suppliers, shrinking markets and market distortions. Careful attention will be paid to these factors as the system becomes operational and efforts will be concentrated on encouraging more suppliers to pre-qualify and to compete in the periodic competitive bidding exercises.

The sustainability of the project is enhanced by the fact that the UNFPA will continue to operate AccessRH after the three-year project phase comes to an end as part of one of the product offerings the agency provides to its customers. In addition, the project is expected to stimulate more competition and development of better and cheaper RH products. Project sustainability is also enhanced through increased country ownership of the RH supply chain and strengthened health systems. In terms of investment, it is anticipated that development and operational costs will be offset by the provision of more, better and cheaper RH commodities, resulting in a decreased number of unwanted pregnancies, maternal deaths, STI and HIV/AIDS infections.

3.3. Cross-cutting issues

The project proposal clearly relates to cross-cutting issues such as gender equality, HIV/AIDS and health system strengthening. Moreover, giving people access to RH commodities is a both a governance issue and a human rights issue. This approach will increase partner countries' ownership, thus directly supporting the objectives of the Paris Declaration.

3.4. Stakeholders

The project will be initiated with the UNFPA's current procurement volumes but will be expanded gradually to include the volumes of partners, other procurement agencies, and governments. In the longer run it is intended to make the AccessRH mechanism available as widely as possible, although the focus will continue to be on all developing countries. The ultimate beneficiaries in all cases will be the people in the recipient countries.

The UNFPA has received indications of donor support from Germany, UK, the Netherlands and the US (which may provide such support by seconding personnel). The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation plans to support the IT infrastructure part of the project, which encompasses the functional capabilities of the RH Interchange — a tool to improve donor and country data for decision making.

4. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

4.1. Method of implementation

The project will be implemented in joint management with the UNFPA, through the signature of a contribution agreement, in line with the provisions of the Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement signed between the EC and the UN¹².

4.2. Procurement and grant award procedures

All contracts implementing the action must be awarded and implemented in accordance with the procedures and standard documents laid down and published by the International Organisation concerned, the UNFPA.

4.3. Budget and timetable

The required funding for the project is estimated at EUR 6.6 million for three years, over the period August 2009-2012. In addition to the EUR 2.5-million Commission contribution, indications of funding support (EUR 4.1 million) have been received from the Netherlands, Germany, UK, USAID and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Provisional budget breakdown

The estimated total cost of EUR 6.6 million is indicatively broken down as follows:

Human Resources	59%
Travel	4%
Equipment and supplies (including software/hardware)	22%
Monitoring and evaluation	5%
Other costs, services	<u>10%</u>
	100%

The proposed EC contribution is EUR 2.5 million.

A detailed operational plan will be developed as part of the interim phase which commenced in mid-November.

4.4. Performance monitoring

The draft log frame includes both key indicators and means of verification for all of the objectives, results and activities of AccessRH. In addition, the project will contribute to an overarching health outcome of global significance: increased utilisation of RH supplies as reflected in higher contraceptive prevalence (CPR) and reduced unmet need for family planning measured in population-based surveys (which are funded and conducted by others, such as UNICEF, the WHO, and USAID). Our assumption is that the project's contribution to this overall objective is contingent upon other interventions including in-country demand generation, service delivery programmes and supply chain management systems. Changes in some of these indicators may not be measurable (and indeed may not be measured) during the three-year life of the project. A monitoring and evaluation plan based on the log frame will be developed in the interim phase.

Illustrative indicators from the log frame include:

- Increase in the number of clients participating in/accessing AccessRH;
- Validated country-anticipated orders;
- Customer satisfaction measured;

¹² http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/implementation/international_organisations/document/s/f3_un_fafa_en.pdf

- Median cost-of-quality-commodity decreases for mechanism-purchased product;
- Average delivery-time decreases for mechanism-purchased product;
- Increase in the number of suppliers that meet quality standards and compete in mechanism bidding process.

4.5. Evaluation and audit

At this point, it is anticipated that a detailed review will be undertaken half-way through the planned project implementation period and that the UNFPA will follow the current rigorous audit standards consistent with its ISO certification and UN requirements. Further details of routine and periodic (mid-term, final, *ex post*) evaluation will be included in the detailed monitoring and evaluation plan.

4.6. Communication and visibility

AccessRH implementation will include a communications component and a marketing strategy to support awareness and use of the mechanism. This may include outreach and marketing materials, training, customer support communications, and promotional support from other stakeholders.

All project communications will comply with the *Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions*¹³.

¹³ http://www.cc.cec/dgintranet/europeaid/info_com/visibility_issues/documents/communication_and_visibility_manual_en.pdf.

ANNEX E

THEMATIC PROGRAMME *INVESTING IN PEOPLE*THEME 1.3: *GOOD HEALTH FOR ALL*

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CAIRO AGENDA INCLUDING PROVISION OF COMMODITIES AND SUPPORTING CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS IN THE COUNTRIES WITH THE WORST INDICATORS

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title	Advocacy and technical support for the development of national SRHR strategies and specific actions		
Total cost	EUR 34 000 000 EUR 16 000 000 under 2009 appropriation + EUR 18 000 000 (provisional ¹) under 2010 appropriations		
Method/ Management mode	Project approach — Call for proposals — <i>Centralised management (direct)</i>		
DAC code	13010 13020 13030 13040	Sector	Population policy and administrative management Reproductive health care Family planning STD control including HIV/AIDS

2. RATIONALE

The thematic programme ‘Investing in People’ pursues a broad approach to development and poverty reduction, with the general aim of improving human and social development levels in partner countries in accordance with the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It is based on Article 12 of the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)², and is detailed in the *Strategy Paper for the Thematic Programme 2007-2013*³. Under the theme ‘Good Health for all’, it addresses four key health areas: human resources for health (HRH); poverty-related and neglected diseases; sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR); and a balanced approach to prevention, treatment and care.

In the field of SRHR, the indicators worldwide are not improving, the needs gap regarding modern contraception remains high, and adolescents — both girls and boys — remain largely underserved despite the fact that they are mostly already sexually active and that they represent future generations. Also sexual and reproductive health (SRH) is not consistently addressed in healthcare programmes, nor is it linked to HIV/AIDS programmes in developing countries.

In the European Consensus of June 2006, the Commission and the Member States committed themselves ‘to the eradication of poverty in the context of sustainable development, including pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals’. It is clear, however, that insufficient progress

¹ Subject to the adoption of 2010 budget.

² Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, OJ L378, 27/12/2006, pp. 41-71.

³ http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/worldwide/health/documents/strategy_paper_en.pdf.

has been made regarding the maternal mortality and SRHR targets for MDG 5 and that without extra efforts these targets will not be met by the year 2015. For this reason, on 24 June 2008 the European Council adopted the EU Agenda for Action on MDGs (11096/08), which sets a number of milestones to be reached in 2010 (21 million more births attended by skilled health personnel each year and 50 million more women in Africa provided with modern contraceptives). A lot of work still needs to be done to reach these ambitious targets.

The shift by the international donor community, including the European Commission, towards providing long-term and predictable development aid through budget or sector support has tended to mask the important role of civil society. Of course civil society organisations should take part in policy dialogues to discuss development programmes, sectoral programmes and progress made towards MDGs such as the SRHR targets. But, in reality, civil society organisations in most developing countries have insufficient knowledge of or access to policy and planning processes, as the policy frameworks of governments are complex and closed to stakeholders. Also, the role that they can and should play is often underestimated or played down by governments, who do not like to have to account for their actions.

The Commission realises that civil society has a critical role to play in advocating better policies and services and bringing about social and behavioural change, which is the key to development, and also that civil society organisations, including community-based organisations, are major providers of SRH and HIV services, information and training at local, national and international levels. With increased funding for the fight against HIV/AIDS, they could also play a major role in advocating integrated programmes covering both SRHR services and preventive care and treatment of HIV/AIDS.

The Commission sees all the above as a challenge and thinks that this programme, which supports civil society organisations to influence their governments, help bring about social change and deliver more effective reproductive programmes through cooperation with other civil society organisations and international organisations working in the same area, can contribute to meeting it.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSAL(S)

3.1. Basic act and financing source

Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, Article 12(2)(a).

This action will be financed from Article 21.0501 of the budget – Human and social development, Item 21.050101 – Health.

3.2. Objectives of the programme, fields of intervention/priorities for the year and expected results

The general objective of the call is to strengthen the advocacy work of civil society organisations in countries where the needs are greatest (including fragile states), to effectively advocate and lobby for the development and implementation of SRHR strategies for their population including adolescents, and to help forge alliances at national level between international organisations, civil society and community-based organisations around these issues.

Proposals are expected to relate to the following indicative themes:

(1) **Advocacy** directed at government institutions at the level where decisions are made on budget allocations to SRHR; and **strategic positioning of SRHR** in national and local policy debates, linking it to a broad economic and sociocultural agenda.

(2) Supporting the advocacy work of **youth networks and coalitions** that promote access for young people, girls and boys, to better information and training on SRHR, sexual education, counselling on safe sexual behaviour, contraceptives and HIV/AIDS, and provision of and/or referral to the full range of SRH services. Attention should also be given to issues like violence and mutual respect between genders.

(3) Designing and running **media campaigns** to support the promotion of SRHR and to end impunity for violence against women using champions and role models; scorecard actions on client perception of SRHR services.

(4) **Forging alliances** of NGOs, other non-State actors and international organisations (IOs) to influence **SRHR policy development and implementation** and the country coordinating mechanisms of the GFATM.

(5) Supporting access to SRH services in **fragile states**; providing services and counselling for **victims of abuse and rape** and supporting their reintegration into society and social acceptance by building on experience of successful humanitarian actions.

Priority will be given to action in fragile states, in countries with the worst indicators for sexual and reproductive health and rights for women, men and adolescents, and in countries where governments have been unable or unwilling to take effective action on SRHR on their own.

Given that the call aims at strengthening the advocacy work of civil society organisations, priority will be given to action led by local actors, particularly those from the country or countries where the action takes place. This will also ensure greater ownership and sustainability. However, international organisations will be eligible as applicants, so as to promote partnerships with civil society. Public bodies and private companies will be excluded as applicants; however, they can take part as partners or associates.

Applicants from the EU and the EEA or a country eligible under the reciprocal access rules must act in partnership with one or more organisations from the eligible beneficiary countries under the DCI.

Partnership is strongly recommended so as to meet more efficiently the capacity building needs of NSAs. Attention will be paid to the quality of the partnership. In particular, partnerships between non-State actors and international organisations and especially cooperation with public sector and local authorities are encouraged.

3.3. Eligibility conditions

Actions may take place in countries eligible under the Development Cooperation Instrument. Eligibility will be defined in the call guidelines, on the basis of Article 24 of the DCI and of the above objectives.

3.4. Essential selection and award criteria

The criteria for the award of grants are laid down in the Practical Guide to Contract Procedures for EC external actions.

The maximum rate of co-financing for grants is 80%. Full financing may be given only in cases provided for in Article 253 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation, where financing in full is essential to carry out the action in question.

The indicative minimum and maximum amounts for grants are expected to be:

- for local applicants: EUR 300 000 and 2 500 000
- for applicants from the EEA and for International Organisations: EUR 700 000 and EUR 2 500 000.

The indicative duration of projects is three years maximum.

3.5. Schedule of calls for proposals

The call for proposals is expected to be published in November-December 2009 and in any case after the decision on the preliminary draft budget 2010.

3.6. Indicative amount of call for proposals

The total budget available for this call in 2009 is EUR 16 million. Subject to adoption of the 2010 General Budget of the European Communities by the budgetary authority, EUR 18 million from budget item 21.050101 of the 2010 budget will be added to finance selected projects under this call for proposals.

4. SUPPORT MEASURES

The selected projects will include a clear visibility and communication plan in accordance with the *Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions*⁴.

Monitoring and evaluation plans will also be foreseen in each project. European Commission Delegations will be involved as much as possible in the monitoring process.

In addition, projects may be subject to European Commission audits and monitoring visits under EuropeAid's annual results-oriented monitoring and audit plans.

The European Commission may hold a seminar to disseminate results and lessons learned among contract holders and other stakeholders.

⁴ http://www.cc.cec/dgintranet/europeaid/info_com/visibility_issues/documents/communication_and_visibility_manual_en.pdf.

ANNEX F

THEMATIC PROGRAMME *INVESTING IN PEOPLE*THEME 2.1: *EDUCATION, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS**PROMOTING EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION FOR HARD-TO-REACH CHILDREN*

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title	Contribution to the FTI Catalytic Fund (CF)		
Total cost	EC contribution: EUR 4 550 000		
Method/ Management mode	Project approach — Joint management with an international organisation (World Bank)		
DAC code	11110	Sector	Education policy and administrative management

2. RATIONALE

The thematic programme ‘Investing in People’ pursues a broad approach to development and poverty reduction, with the general aim of improving human and social development levels in partner countries in accordance with the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals. It is based on Article 12 of the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)¹, and is detailed in the *Strategy Paper for the Thematic Programme 2007-2013*². The second theme of the programme – ‘Education, knowledge and skills’ – covers a specific area of action on promoting universal access to quality primary education by boosting enrolment rates and promoting equal access among boys and girls and children from hard-to-reach groups.

2.1. Sector context

The Education for All (EFA) Fast Track Initiative (FTI) is a global partnership between donors, NGOs and developing countries to help ensure accelerated progress towards the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) of universal primary education by 2015. All low-income countries that demonstrate a serious commitment to achieving universal primary completion can receive support from FTI.

The FTI is a platform for collaboration at global and country levels. Developing countries commit themselves to designing and implementing sound national education plans while donor partners commit themselves to aligning and harmonising additional support around these plans. Funding is channelled through existing bilateral and multilateral channels and through the FTI Catalytic Fund (CF), a multi-donor, multi-recipient trust fund managed by the World Bank, set up to provide transitional financial assistance to low-income countries facing funding gaps for basic education. Support from the CF can enable beneficiary countries to scale up implementation of their sector programmes and establish a track record of performance that can attract longer-term predictable support from existing or new donors. Low-income countries that are eligible to receive support through the CF have a Poverty Reduction Strategy and an education sector plan endorsed by donors in country through the

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, OJ L 378, 27/12/2006, pp. 41-71.

² http://ec.europa.eu/development/policies/9interventionareas/humandev_en.cfm.

FTI appraisal process. The EC is a member of the CF Committee and is therefore involved in the decision processes of the CF financial allocations.

The CF was supported under the *Investing in People* annual programmes in 2007 and 2008, and will continue to be supported in 2009.

According to the latest data available, there has been considerable progress towards achieving universal primary education since Dakar, with sharp increases in enrolment in sub-Saharan Africa and in South and West Asia, along with more modest increases in the Arab States. Primary school access and completion nevertheless remain major concerns in those regions and, to some extent, in Latin America and the Caribbean. The number of primary school-age children out of school declined by 24 million from 1999 to 2005 but remained unacceptably high at 72 million. Estimates suggest that around half of these children live in fragile States. The Education for All (EFA) Development Index, calculated for 125 countries, shows improvements in many of the lowest-ranking countries. Countries with no data — many in conflict or post-conflict situations — are not included, but are likely to suffer from low levels of educational development, compounding the continuing global EFA challenge. Recent developments, with high volatility in global financial markets and the re-emergence in force of chronic challenges for low-income countries such as escalating food crises and increases in the price of oil and other commodities indicate that millions of people could be pushed into poverty. This could result in families being increasingly unable to keep their children in school and potentially increase challenges for FTI partnership.

International aid is essential to consolidate progress and to meet this goal on time. Both actual and pledged levels of aid for basic education are increasing, but remain insufficient given the urgency of achieving EFA. Aid for basic education in low-income countries should at least double. It should include aid for literacy, be more predictable over the longer term and be reallocated towards those countries most in need.

The Fast Track Initiative (FTI) has become a key vehicle in this endeavour. It is a global partnership between donors, NGOs and developing countries to ensure faster progress towards the Millennium Development Goal of universal primary education by 2015. All low-income countries which demonstrate a serious commitment to achieving universal primary completion can receive support from the FTI. It also provides a key coordinating mechanism for donor agencies.

The FTI encourages mobilisation of financial resources to support development and implementation of countries' education plans. Ideally, additional resources are made available directly from domestic resources and bilateral and multilateral partners. Where this is not possible, the FTI can provide transitional support from one of its two multi-donor trust funds: the Catalytic Fund (CF) and the Education Programme Development Fund (EPDF).

2.2. Lessons learnt

The Catalytic Fund has been supported since 2007 by the European Commission. Its purpose is to provide transitional financial assistance to FTI countries that have a Poverty Reduction Strategy and whose education plans have been endorsed by donors in the FTI appraisal process. Since its inception in 2003 to November 2008, the CF has allocated a cumulative amount of more than USD 1 178 million to 30 countries.

The CF has expanded from the original concept of short-term financing (up to 3 years) to a mechanism that can provide long term predictable financing to countries with FTI-endorsed education sector plans but with insufficient domestic or external aid resources to implement them. This change was agreed on by CF donors in 2007. The CF Committee has put in place rigorous requirements for the application and re-application process to support the allocation decisions.

The Commission provided EUR 22 million in 2007 and EUR 5.6 million in 2008 to support the CF from the *Investing in People* thematic programme.

Support through the FTI includes more than just the CF. Country endorsement means that all potential sources of funding will be considered, with no expectation that CF support will be the appropriate source in every case. These points needed to be communicated more broadly at country level (among local donors, civil society and government) in order to manage expectations more effectively. Substantial progress on clarification, quality assurance and strengthening country level processes was made in 2008 with the development of the new Process Guide.

2.3. Complementary action

The European Commission has been providing funding to promote education plus technical and vocational training in different areas under various cooperation instruments. The main contributions have been channelled via EC country programmes, in countries where education has been identified as a focal sector. In addition, there is now stronger emphasis on supporting education indirectly via the poverty reduction support programmes.

In the ACP area, a contribution of EUR 62 million to the Catalytic Fund from the 9th EDF was approved in 2006.

The European Commission is broadening its focus on aid effectiveness and support for situations of fragility, and this is also true of education. It has been actively involved in broader joint work by the FTI Task Team on Fragile States to find solutions for education in fragile States; this work will be carried on by the newly formed Working Group on Education in Fragile States under the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies. With its network of Delegations and support for education in a number of fragile States, the Commission is well positioned to play a key role in this joint effort.

2.4. Donor coordination

The FTI has been recognised as a model for good practice in aid effectiveness, particularly in its approach to ownership, harmonisation, alignment, management for results and mutual accountability. The Paris Declaration on aid effectiveness lies at the heart of the FTI, not only at country level but also via global level meetings, including:

- FTI Partnership Meetings (donor and recipient countries, development agencies and civil society), which discuss and assess progress and review and address issues affecting progress towards universal primary education;
- FTI Steering Committee Meetings, which provide overall policy guidance for the Initiative and direction to the Secretariat and help ensure coordination;
- working groups or task teams, which are set up as needed to carry out in-depth analyses and to develop strategies to address specific issues, including Strengthening Country-Level Processes (chaired by the Commission), Fragile States, HIV/AIDS and Quality.

Different fora have been developed to coordinate and harmonise donor support and approaches to education in fragile States. A task team was established under the FTI to develop joint work in this area and is likely to be taken over by a new Working Group on Education in Fragile States (on which the Commission will be represented) under the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE). In recent years the INEE has been a key network for better communication and collaboration between a range of agencies working on education in emergencies and post-crisis transition. There is broad agreement that emerging mechanisms and fora for supporting education in fragile States need to be located clearly within the wider education aid architecture offered by the FTI.

3. DESCRIPTION

3.1. Objectives

The objective of this contribution is to help low-income countries meet the education Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and more specifically the Education for All goal that all children complete a full cycle of primary education by 2015.

3.2. Stakeholders

The Fast Track Initiative encompasses all major donors to education — about 30 bilateral, regional and international agencies and development banks. About 30 developing countries have joined the FTI, and 5 major civil society organisations are involved in the partnership.

The immediate beneficiaries of this support to the FTI Secretariat and the independent evaluation of the Initiative will include governments and their Ministries of Education that are either in the partnership already or which join it in the years ahead. Donors at both global and national levels will also benefit from the action as a result of the role played by the Secretariat. Ultimate or indirect beneficiaries will include the children, teachers, school managers and communities who should benefit from increased and improved national and external support to national sectoral strategies.

3.3. Expected results and main activities

The CF will continue to make additional resources available to the beneficiary countries to scale up the national responses defined to achieve the following results:

- increased financial resources for primary education in countries with a financial gap to implement their education sector plan;
- more effective sectoral policies and efficient public finance management, by means of systematic review and indicative benchmarking of the recipient countries' education policies and performance;
- increased accountability for sectoral results, with the aid of annual reporting on policy progress and key sectoral outcomes set out in the sectoral plans and transparent sharing of results;
- improved domestic financing for education, within the framework of a country's national Poverty Reduction Strategy, medium-term expenditure framework or other country statements, as appropriate;
- more efficient aid delivery mechanisms for primary education, with the emergence or consolidation of existing coordination methods at country level leading to greater complementarity and harmonisation between donors and governments and therefore reducing the transaction costs for FTI recipient countries;
- faster pace of school enrolment, improved quality of teaching and learning and measures ensuring that students complete primary education.

The CF Committee makes decisions on strategy and the allocation of resources to support national sectoral strategic plans. These funds are then managed by the World Bank as trustee and planned accordingly, using the most appropriate and aligned method of delivery to achieve the agreed objectives and support sectoral programmes. The primary goal of the Catalytic Fund is to reduce financing gaps that cannot otherwise be filled. FTI-endorsed countries are encouraged to identify basic education as a priority for new funding from all bilateral and multilateral donors. This approach is important for other sources of funding that base both their priority sectors and level of financial support on explicit funding requests from governments.

3.4. Implementation set-up

The Catalytic Fund is in line with the guiding principles of the Fast Track Initiative: country ownership, benchmarking, support linked to performance, lower transaction costs and transparency. The goal is to make available a predictable source of funding that will enable eligible recipients to engage in long-term planning of their education programmes.

The CF Committee allocates resources to countries to support the endorsed sectoral plan and endorses the entity which will serve as the recipient of the funds. Finally, the Bank, as trustee of the Catalytic Fund, will enter into an agreement with the entity selected to receive the funds. Taking account of the guidance given by the CF Committee, the Bank will make every effort to channel all funds via the most aligned method of delivery, as agreed upon by the Local Donor Group in the education sector in the recipient country.

The CF is managed by the World Bank on behalf of the FTI partnership.

3.5. Risks and assumptions

The project is designed to ensure maximum country-level ownership of the diagnosis, policy recommendations and implementation of the programme. The existing coordination mechanisms and the reporting role given to the lead coordinating agency at country level will ensure smooth implementation of national plans and provide a means of agreeing appropriate mitigating measures when required.

The endorsement procedure ensures that a consensus exists at country level on the national priorities and the commitment of all stakeholders to the activities to be implemented to achieve the commonly agreed national results. The CF seeks to increase coordination among donors and minimise transaction costs while maintaining adequate safeguards to ensure that funds made available to eligible countries are used effectively and achieve results.

If the FTI process does not lead to the expected release of additional funding at country level, the FTI Secretariat will be able to monitor the situation and invite the donor community to take appropriate measures.

3.6. Cross-cutting issues

The FTI Appraisal Guidelines for applicants' education plans clearly state that the national plans should include appropriate strategies for addressing HIV/AIDS, gender equality, equity of access for all vulnerable groups and other cross-cutting issues relevant to education. Environmental issues are usually covered by national sectoral strategies, and environmental impact assessments are included in the appraisal and endorsement process where appropriate.

4. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

4.1. Implementation method

The contribution involves joint management under a contribution agreement with an international organisation (World Bank).

The contribution will be administered by the World Bank in accordance with the 'Standard Provisions Applicable to the EFA Fast Track Initiative Secretariat Multi-Donor Trust Fund'.

4.2. Procurement and grant award procedures

All contracts implementing the action must be awarded and implemented in accordance with the procedures and standard documents laid down and published by the international organisation concerned.

4.3. Budget and timeframe

A contribution of EUR 4 550 000 will be made in 2009 to the Catalytic Fund of the Fast Track Initiative.

The indicative timeframe will be 24 months, as from signature of the contribution agreement with the World Bank.

4.4. Performance monitoring

In line with the basic FTI principles, there will be an in-country monitoring mechanism. In no case should there be any parallel processes for performance monitoring and evaluation. Each FTI-endorsed country should conduct an Annual Sector Review conducted jointly by all key partners. The World Bank, as a member of the Local Donor Group, will participate in these reviews. Monitoring and annual reviews should focus on agreed performance, aid effectiveness indicators and development results rather than following a year-to-year micro-management and project-type approach.

The FTI Secretariat will also prepare regular reports to the FTI partners on recipient countries' performance and the lessons learnt from the FTI, based on information drawn from annual country-level sectoral reviews. The FTI Secretariat will provide each donor with an annual report on the activities financed by the CF.

4.5. Evaluation and audit

The annual reports prepared by the FTI Secretariat, the results of the annual sectoral reviews of the recipient countries and the information provided by UNESCO are expected to be sufficient to form an opinion on the progress with and results of the FTI and the CF. If required, within the CF Strategy Committee, donors may call for in-depth assessments of the FTI/CF activities.

The EC support to the FTI Secretariat in 2008 will also contribute to a jointly funded independent evaluation of the FTI since its inception in 2002.

The World Bank will provide a standard single audit of the Catalytic Fund to all its donors.

4.6. Communication and visibility

As far as possible, the FTI partnership should identify potential areas where broader strategic communication could be sought. The EC-WB Agreement can be used as a reference.

ANNEX G

THEMATIC PROGRAMME *INVESTING IN PEOPLE*

THEME 2.1: EDUCATION, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS- *PROMOTING EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION FOR HARD-TO-REACH CHILDREN*

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title	Providing, keeping and rewarding good teachers		
Total cost	Indicative total cost: EUR 4 000 000 EC contribution: EUR 1 450 000		
Method/Management mode	Joint management with an international organisation (UNESCO)		
DAC code	11110 11220	Sector	Education policy and administrative management Primary education

2. RATIONALE

The thematic programme ‘Investing in People’ pursues a broad approach to development and poverty reduction, with the general aim of improving human and social development levels in partner countries in accordance with the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It is based on Article 12 of the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)¹, and is detailed in the *Strategy Paper for the Thematic Programme 2007-2013*². The second theme of the programme – ‘Education, knowledge and skills’ – covers a specific area of action on promoting universal access to quality primary education by increasing enrolment rates and promoting equal access among boys and girls and children from hard-to-reach groups. A more specific objective of the programme is to support policy related events and programmes promoting transfers of experience, best practices and innovation on key policy issues associated with delivery of free and universally accessible quality basic education.

2.1. Sector context

Net enrolment rates in primary education have increased to 86% in the developing world, ranging from 95% in Latin America to 64% in Sub-Saharan Africa, but this increase in access to education has not been matched by an increase in quality and many children are completing their primary education without having achieved functional literacy.

Measurements of quality are complex, but commentators agree that teachers are central to quality education. Quality education depends on having good-quality teachers trained and deployed appropriately, working in an enabling environment and with a class size of 40 or fewer pupils. In many countries this is not the case: worldwide, 18 million primary school teachers are needed over the next decade to meet the Universal Primary Education (UPE) goals. This number corresponds to the needs to fill new positions and vacancies created by

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, OJ L 378, 27/12/2006, pp. 41-71.

² http://ec.europa.eu/development/policies/9interventionareas/humandev_en.cfm.

teacher attrition. It is estimated that by 2015 up to 3.8 million new teachers will be needed in Africa and some countries in Asia are similarly affected, with UPE data indicating a shortage of 3.9 million in East Asia and the Pacific and a need of 3.5 million new teachers in South and West Asia.

Teacher shortages are now considered to be a significant barrier to progress on the Education for All (EFA) agenda, in terms of both enrolment levels and learning outcomes. Indeed, supplying qualified teachers in adequate numbers is central to ensuring sustainable human development and making national goals possible to achieve.

Main teacher workforce challenges

The qualified teacher supply crisis is due to a number of complex economic, social and political factors. National education systems dealing with the crisis face major challenges because of:

- *Policy gaps* affecting the development and/or reinforcement of national strategies and plans to fill the teacher gap. This includes challenges related to adequate, comprehensive, gender-sensitive national strategies and adequately budgeted plans to address teacher recruitment, training; employment, deployment, retention, management, conditions and teacher status. Furthermore, short-term provision of teachers needs to be built into medium- and long-term solutions. Adequate development and integration of relevant technical and financial assistance by development partners as well as research on policies and practices play also a role.
- *Capacity gaps*, particularly the development of national capacity to collect, manage and use statistical data and information to inform decision making, policy development and sector planning
- *Financing gaps*: teachers' salaries account for up to 80% of recurrent costs in some countries' education budgets. Limits on inflation and the public sector wage bill have made it difficult to increase teacher numbers in some cases. There is a need for national governments and development partners to adequately address and review macro-economic policies so as to give education national priority and provide for adequate teacher remuneration and recruitment, training and development. This also suggests that the process to endorse the EFA Fast Track Initiative should ensure that sector plans include adequate provision for sustainable qualified teacher supply.

In addition, in countries where there are sufficient numbers of teachers, they may not all be fully qualified or they may be deployed unevenly. As a result, there is a surplus in urban schools in comparison to rural schools. Other countries find that incentives for secondary teaching are luring away good primary school teachers and so, even though they have trained enough teachers, they are not available for the Ministry of Education (MoE) to fill primary school posts. At secondary level there is often a challenge in meeting the required numbers of teachers in certain subjects — notably mathematics and science, which subsequently affects the supply of suitably qualified graduates able to study to become teachers of these subjects. Many teachers are dissatisfied with their terms and conditions and find that they can earn more and enjoy a higher social status and better living conditions in another line of work.

Responding to the challenges

There has been a long-standing dialogue among key stakeholders to ensure education and teacher challenges are addressed in line with EU and global policies, programming frameworks and the aid effectiveness agenda.

The EU Agenda for Action on the MDGs (June 2008) highlights the need to address both access to education and quality of education, partly by addressing teacher shortages, stating

that by 2010 European Official Development Aid (ODA) will contribute to an extra 6 million teachers.

The Joint Africa-EU Strategy was adopted at the EU-Africa Lisbon Summit in 2007, with a view to strengthening the ties between the two continents with the development of a ‘co-owned joint strategy’ reflecting the needs and aspirations of the peoples of Africa and Europe. The purpose of the strategy is to develop practical approaches for future partnerships between the EU and Africa based on the principle of common interests and ownership. The first Action Plan (2008-2010) is divided into eight thematic partnerships. Partnership four – the Millennium Development Goals Partnership – includes priority action on achieving the education MDGs and highlights the need to address teacher shortages.

Cooperation and partnership between the European Commission and the UN has grown significantly over the past ten years in the context of development of prioritisation and modalities, starting with the Millennium Declaration and resulting in a wide range of interventions and in a substantial increase in the volume of funds channelled (13% of total aid in 2005 and 2006).

This project will significantly contribute to the above efforts by researching key issues affecting qualified teacher attrition and best practices in addressing qualified teacher shortages, and by supporting dissemination of research results among relevant stakeholders. The project will contribute to the development of a time-bound roadmap in support of EFA-challenged countries to fill the qualified teacher gap. Specifically, it will support the implementation of recommendations for concrete actions endorsed at the EFA High Level Group meeting in Oslo in mid-December 2008 on ‘teachers for quality education’ that endorsed the continuation and the strengthening of the existing Task on Teachers for EFA.

2.2. Complementary actions

Qualified teacher shortage is currently being debated at many levels and efforts have been made to develop coherent actions on the issues.

The Joint AU-EU Africa Strategy’s MDG Partnership and the UN MDG Africa Steering Group, reporting to the New York High Level Group (HLG) in September 2008, supported the need to address issues of teacher recruitment, training, and deployment. The Joint AU-EU Africa Strategy emphasises ‘addressing the shortage of teachers’ as a priority action and the EU Agenda for Action on the MDGs states that future EU ODA will contribute to 6000 more teachers by the year 2010.

The above objectives are also stressed in the AU-EU Action Plan (priority 4) and will contribute to speeding up the achievement of the MDG education targets.

‘The Second Decade of Education for Africa (2006-2015)’ has been prepared by the African Union Member States for the benefit of the entire African continent. The Plan of Action, which is based on a set of eight guiding principles, is intended to significantly raise education achievement (access and quality) while addressing teacher education as a focus area. One of the main goals of the plan is ‘to ensure the provision of sufficient teachers to meet the demands of the education systems and to ensure that all teachers are properly qualified and possess the relevant knowledge, skills and attitudes to teach effectively.’ The plan views the chronic shortage of competent and qualified teachers as being exacerbated by inadequate training facilities. Teacher shortages have to be seen within the context of the quality of teacher education and career progression. As a result the plan addresses as a priority the improvement of the supply and deployment of teachers; enhancing teacher competence; and institutionalising systematic career-long development for teachers.

A number of complementary initiatives have been undertaken, such as the UNESCO Teacher Training Initiative for Sub-Saharan Africa (TTISSA) launched in 2006, which addresses the enhancement of teacher policies. The ILO, the World Bank and other international and regional partners including the African Union, the E-9, and the Commonwealth Secretariat have also developed relevant programmes. Similar workforce challenges have been addressed by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Global Health Workforce Alliance (GHWA) with regard to the health workforce.

Many of the European Commission's partner countries have also included addressing teacher shortages or improving their deployment and management in their national policies. 'Contract teachers' have been sometimes hired to address acute teacher shortages, and incentive systems such as locally based recruitment are being developed to help deploy teachers more evenly; motivational issues have been identified as a key factor in the quality of teaching and teacher presence.

2.3. Donor coordination

Addressing qualified teacher shortages requires multi-sectoral and multi-partner efforts with governments' stewardship and leadership. Internationally, it is imperative that multilateral and bilateral agencies, global financial mechanisms and private bodies work together even more effectively. Indeed, how well education and teacher actions are harmonised across diverse actors can powerfully influence the impact and sustainability of education investment.

Recognising the need for coherent, appropriate, and effective reinforcement by regional and global players, the Oslo HLG meeting agreed on the main lines of action to tackle policy, capacity and financing gaps affecting qualified teacher shortages and UPE goals that will strengthen global partnership and national ownership in implementing solutions to address the teacher crisis. In this connection, the Task Force on Teachers for EFA will be mandated and empowered to work on the implementation and monitoring of the Action Plan and global coordination of EFA partners.

3. DESCRIPTION

3.1. Overall objective

To contribute to the improvement of the education sector performance and progress in attaining the MDGs by supporting the development and implementation of policies, strategies and plans to tackle the critical shortage of qualified teachers.

3.2. Specific objectives

- To provide a forum for the dissemination of research and experience related to addressing the challenges of teacher supply and shortages, from both Europe and developing countries, to inform policy makers.
- To provide support for the follow-up mechanism to be put in place, based at UNESCO, to ensure that the Oslo Declaration and Action Plan are implemented to ensure effective global, regional and national action on teacher shortages and quality education.

3.3. Main activities

The following three activities are proposed to contribute to the achievement of the above objectives. In particular, the proposed project will focus on supporting the EFA Partnership's efforts to address qualified teacher shortages.

Activity A: Teacher Attrition Study (indicative budget: EUR 80 000)

A study on teacher attrition will be commissioned to examine teacher attrition in Africa and other countries affected by teacher shortages (of the 3.8 million teachers estimated to be needed in Africa, 2.1 million are needed to replace teachers lost through attrition). This study is intended to review literature and experiences with a view to identifying key issues which must be addressed to tackle the problem of teacher attrition. The study will produce an inventory of global innovative best practices addressing this problem; its results will be made available and disseminated at the conference planned as activity B.3.

Activity B: Teacher education conference (indicative budget: EUR 770 000)

This is intended to provide a forum for policy makers to share experiences based on:

B.1: An **inventory** of global innovatory practices in teacher education, including the use of ICT in teaching. This responds to the need to collate past and present experiences at global level in addressing qualified teacher shortages and will result in a comprehensive inventory of work undertaken, highlighting successful experiences and lessons learned. To date, no comprehensive study has produced an inventory of these many and varied innovations or proposed suitable methodology to bring them to scale. This inventory would form part of the presentation to the main conference (Activity B.3), following which it would also be widely disseminated.

B.2: A series of **pre-conference seminars** to share international research on teacher education, management, deployment and support in the context of teacher shortages. These are seen as preparatory to Activity B.3 below and will take place primarily in countries of the African Union. They are intended to create opportunities for sharing experience and learning from Europe and among policy-makers from countries affected by teacher shortages. Particular topics will be proposed in relation to policy, capacity and financing gaps faced by countries with teacher shortages.

B.3: A **conference** for policy makers, which would be the main forum for sharing the results of the attrition study, the inventory and the seminars, as well as serving as a platform for other researchers to share their learning. The conference will be organised together with UNESCO through its regional institutions such as BREDA (Regional Bureau for Education in Africa) and TISSA (Teachers in Sub-Saharan Africa), in collaboration with such organisations as ADEA (Association for the Development of Education in Africa), the Commonwealth Secretariat and the African Union. It will disseminate the results of the study on teacher attrition (see A.1 above), the inventory on innovation (including ICT), UNESCO work on teacher issues, other research currently being carried out under with other donors, and relevant EC lessons learned from the pre-conference seminars. It will also recommend future avenues of collaboration among countries affected by teacher shortages.

The conference will take place in an African Union country (to be determined). It is expected to attract stakeholders from AU countries primarily but not exclusively. The main emphasis will be on those countries with the worst indicators, as they are in need of the most assistance to achieve the MDGs.

Activity C: Strengthening the EFA Teachers Task Force to ensure follow-up of the EFA Oslo Declaration and Action Plan with particular reference to teacher issues (indicative budget: EUR 660 000)

The strengthened Task Force is expected to:

- Build upon the established *ad hoc* teachers' task force which was set up for the Oslo meeting and a global alliance/network/task force on Teachers for EFA. Its composition and mandate will be explored in detail at the Oslo meeting, taking into consideration experience from similar social sector initiatives. The task force will be chaired by one of

the UNESCO member states and its main task will be to ensure that the agreed action plan is carried out, through high-level advocacy on teacher issues, collecting and sharing information, experience and good practice, disseminating relevant policy and analytical work, supporting national capacity development, global monitoring, and reporting on progress.

- Disseminate the conference outcomes (activity B) as part of the follow-up mechanism described above.

3.4. Stakeholders

The key stakeholders and targeted groups involved in the project are expected to be:

- the European Commission and EU Member States
- the African Union and its Member States
- countries with particular teacher shortages
- UNESCO and its regional organisations
- the private sector and civil society
- international organisations
- the education research community.

3.5. Risks and Assumptions

The main risk is that the schedule may not be maintained. Close monitoring and management of the process will be necessary to ensure that schedules are kept to, reporting deadlines are met and outputs are on target.

It is assumed that all preparatory work will be completed before the June-August 2009 vacation period.

It is assumed that other donors will cooperate in sharing research output.

4. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

4.1. Implementing method

The duration of the project is expected to be a maximum of 36 months starting in April 2009.

Activities will be implemented under a contribution agreement with UNESCO. A Joint EU-UNESCO Steering Committee will advise on and monitor project implementation.

4.2. Budget and timetable

The total budget for this action is currently estimated at EUR 4 million. The EC contribution will be EUR 1.45 million. The Norwegian government will contribute approximately USD 1 million. Additionally, the British and German governments have expressed interest in financially supporting the project. A number of other donors have expressed interest in supporting the strengthened Teachers Task Force along with the Commission, and UNESCO would support the Conference by making available staff from their regional offices and from the TISSA initiative.

It is envisaged that the task force will work for three years initially, with a review of progress after two years.

4.3. Performance monitoring

Detailed monitoring plan and indicators will be developed during the inception phase by UNESCO. This plan and indicators will be used during the implementation phase of the project and to report to the European Commission on the activities carried out and the achievement of results. Performance monitoring of the task force will be carried out jointly with the other donors and UNESCO.

4.4. Evaluation

The Task Force will be evaluated after two years of operation to gauge its progress in ensuring that the action plan is carried out and to ascertain the feasibility of extending it until 2015 (when the EFA goals are to be achieved). In preparation for this and in order to ensure continued relevance and effectiveness, there will be an annual review of work, carried out by the steering group.

The Conference organisers will be required to evaluate the Conference immediately after the event and to follow up with participants after three months to ascertain the extent to which learning and experience sharing has been used in policy and practice.

4.5. Communication and visibility

A specific action plan will be developed on communication and visibility, in compliance with the *Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions*³.

The European Commission will be kept informed on developments and activities. The European Commission will be involved in activities, especially in critical policy events (this includes the European Commission Delegations at country level).

All relevant communication and visibility activities will be carried out in collaboration with the European Commission and its Delegations.

3

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/visibility/documents/communication_and_visibility_manual_en.pdf.

ANNEX H

THEMATIC PROGRAMME *INVESTING IN PEOPLE*THEME 2.2: *EDUCATION, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS**IMPROVING OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING*

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title	Developing TVET methodologies and services for the informal economy		
Total cost	EUR 17 000 000 EUR 8 000 000 under 2009 appropriation ¹ + EUR 9 000 000 (provisional ²) under 2010 appropriation		
Method/ Management mode	Project approach — Call for proposals — <i>Centralised management (direct)</i>		
DAC code	11330	Sector	Vocational training

2. RATIONALE

The thematic programme ‘Investing in People’ pursues a broad approach to development and poverty reduction, with the general aim of improving human and social development levels in partner countries in accordance with the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals. It is based on Article 12 of the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)³, and is detailed in the *Strategy Paper for the Thematic Programme 2007-2013*⁴. Under the theme ‘Education, knowledge and skills’, it addresses two priority areas: promoting equal access to quality basic education for hard-to-reach children and improving opportunities for vocational education and skills training.

The European Consensus on Development has highlighted the importance of education and training for development policy and poverty reduction. As stated in the Multi-annual Indicative Programme for 2007-2010, thematic action aimed at improving opportunities for vocational education and skills training should back up the measures promoting equal access to quality basic education for hard-to-reach children. Technical and vocational education and training (TVET) forms an important part of the overall education system and plays a key role in giving people an opportunity to gain access to jobs. As such, it is a significant factor in reducing poverty. It offers an opportunity for a wide range of people of different ages to acquire technical skills and increase their employability.

Earlier programming for TVET under Investing in People was covered by a call for proposals, in 2008, supporting the institutional functioning of demand-driven TVET in the formal economy, in low- and middle-income countries.

¹ This amount includes EUR 1 950 000 out of the EUR 2 167 500 placed in reserve by the European Parliament under budget item 21.050102. This reserve aims to reinforce the democratic legitimacy of projects under the "Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean". More specifically, an agreement is requested by the Budgetary Authority regarding the incorporation of the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly into the institutional structure of the Union for the Mediterranean. The lifting of the reserve is subject to this condition being met.

² Subject to the adoption of 2010 budget.

³ Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, OJ L 378, 27/12/2006, pp. 41-71.

⁴ http://ec.europa.eu/development/policies/9interventionareas/humandev_en.cfm.

In 2009, the call for proposals will aim to address the training gaps and needs of people working in the informal sector of the economy.

Labour-market-driven TVET is a traditional area of European Commission external cooperation⁵. In general, the EC-supported TVET programmes mostly address the needs of the formal economy and are often linked to the modernisation of labour markets and to information and matching functions, especially in middle-income countries, where labour-market and private-sector demand for vocational skills upgrading is strong due to changing labour markets. For low-income countries (ACP), TVET support is lower. With the innovative thematic programme 'Investing in People', the European Commission is now starting to focus on and help upgrade the skills of people working in the informal economy.

Sector context

'The informal economy' is a general expression for economic activities that are not recorded in official statistics, do not entitle workers to any social security coverage and do not contribute to the State's tax revenues. The informal economy is extremely varied. It includes very different situations, from undeclared work through subsistence agriculture outside the monetary economy, the urban informal sector (fast growing with urbanisation, restructuring and rationalisation in the public sector, and deregulation of labour markets in the private sector), and widespread family work, self-employment and micro-enterprises, to some forms of traditional unpaid work⁶.

In many poor countries, the areas excluded are huge — the size of the official economy may be as small as 10-20 per cent of total employment, with extreme situations where the informal economy can account for up to 95% of the working population (i.e. Zambia), and social protection schemes cover only those employed in the formal sector, very often only the public sector.

It is estimated that around 500 million people in the world now work in the informal economy. In situations where only a small minority can be included in the official economy, the probability of people — especially young people — finding an official job is extremely remote.

Thus, instead of being seen in a bad light, the informal economy now tends to be considered an income-generating labour opportunity for a very high percentage of the active population — very often the only opportunity. A general consensus can now be found at national and international level on providing the informal economy with financial and technical support, especially micro-enterprises and small producers, and on adopting policies that encourage and support self-employment and micro-entrepreneurship, in order to allow primary capital accumulation, helping people out of the poverty trap and towards social and economic inclusion.

5 The European Commission supports home-grown TVET reforms in partner countries, mostly through sector budget support (SBS) totalling more than EUR 470 million and an additional EUR 160 million is in the pipeline (basic and higher education excluded).

6 Since the expression 'the informal sector' was introduced by the ILO in the 1970s, numerous studies have highlighted its great heterogeneity. Even today there is still no universally valid definition, although it is possible to identify certain common characteristics. According to the ILO, the characteristic features of the informal sector are: a lack of safeguards provided by labour and social legislation; often restricted access to the market and to state subsidies; capital costs greater than those in the formal sector (because of higher interest rates); no separation of personal and business assets; personalised business relations; no written contracts; family work plays a major role (particularly in female and child labour); surpluses are often consumed and only partly reinvested.

In many African countries, policy-makers are increasingly aware of the critical role that TVET can play in national development, and training for employment is becoming a priority in the continent. The African Union Commission is spearheading the development of a new strategy for TVET in Africa, whose objectives are to modernise and mainstream TVET as a necessary component of development, youth employment and human capacity building⁷.

Supplying the informal economy sector with appropriate support can contribute to increasing opportunities for people to earn their livelihoods in various working activities and to eradicating poverty. Moreover, enhancing the productive potential of the informal economy, its employment, and income-generating capacity can lead to expansion of the formal economy, and of declared and decent work.

As highlighted by studies and experiences, conditions for education and training in the urban informal sector are extremely difficult. Learning processes are often directly concerned with survival, that is, with earning a subsistence income, and relevant occupational skills are largely acquired outside the formal education system.

Informal and non-formal training activities do exist in the informal economy. In some more organised and structured segments of the urban informal sector, for instance in manufacturing micro- and small-scale enterprises that have business links with the formal sector (e.g. subcontracting arrangements), workers receive some sort of training. This is more often on-the-job instructions where ‘learning by doing’ or ‘learning by observing and trying out’ play an important role. Group-based and self-help strategies for providing training and other services were found by research and studies to be appropriate in situations where formal institutions that normally provide such services were either non-existent or weak, or simply unprepared or unwilling to deal with economic units in the informal sector. Other examples of informal training can be found at community-based level, in the form of traditional apprenticeships that include both vocational training and basic educational skills. Cooperation projects run by NGOs and civil society organisations often include training activities (non-formal training). In both cases (informal and non-formal TVET) the absence of official acknowledgement/certification of the competencies acquired deprives the newly-trained workers of the full benefits to be expected.

Lessons learned

On the basis of previous experiences and lessons learned, providing TVET services to the informal sector requires ad hoc approaches, methodologies and training methods, and a particular attention to living and working conditions in the informal economy and to constraints in learning processes. Some essential — although not exhaustive — requirements for delivering effective TVET services to the informal economy are that they be:

- Demand-driven: TVET activities for the informal economy should be based on accurate needs assessments, and be designed and implemented in contact and in partnership with local stakeholders. Organisations of informal economy workers (where they exist) have proven effective in helping to address problems with working conditions, including training needs.
- Employment-effective: vocational skills training should cover competencies necessary for direct employment as well as self-employment, drawing on locally marketable skills. Learning contents must be predominantly practical and in some cases productive, since the learners will be required to start earning money immediately and hence have to put what they have learned into practice right away. Training must be clearly oriented to provide individuals or groups with the skills they need to secure employment as a wage

⁷ http://www.africa-union.org/root/AU/Conferences/2007/May/HRST/29-31/TVET_Strategy_english.doc.

worker in the informal economy sector (e.g. manual and technical skills, basic ability to make contacts and communicate, functional literacy) or as a small entrepreneur (basic management skills).

- Flexible and modular: approaches have to fit the working and living conditions of target groups (e.g. who cannot attend extended, unproductive learning processes; who need to fit in training to suit working hours; and who may need basic catch-up education provided with TVET to fill relevant gaps in prior basic education). They should also adjust to their learning capacity and patterns (e.g. poor literacy, learning-by-doing as the prevalent learning pattern; the need of differentiate training programmes to suit specific groups of learners, such as women and children). Experiences with marginalised groups have also highlighted the importance of addressing problems of self-esteem and empowerment.
- Linked with the formal TVET system: recognition by the formal education and TVET systems of skills acquired in informal and non-formal training activities, by introducing some certification of out-of-school learning processes, can help give workers in the informal economy greater opportunities, for example to move from the informal to the formal sector. The experience of micro-level training projects in the informal sector has highlighted the need to integrate them into a national training policy framework if they are to be effective and sustainable.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

3.1. Basic act and financing source

Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006, establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, Article 12(2)(b).

This action will be financed from Article 21.0501 of the budget — Human and social development, item 21.050102 (Education, knowledge and skills).

3.2. Objectives of the programme, fields of intervention/priorities for the year and expected results

This call for proposals is designed to address the training gaps and needs of people working in the informal sector of the economy, by supporting the development of TVET activities that can better respond to local labour-market demand and produce relevant and useful professional skills in a flexible manner. Considerable emphasis will be put on building skills that improve people's chances of earning better livelihoods in various activities in the informal economy.

TVET activities should be based on needs identified in the informal sector at local, national and regional level, including possible areas of improvement for self-employment activities and micro-/small enterprises, and should result as much as possible from an initial exchange of experience and best practice with relevant actors.

Overall objective

The overall objective is to provide appropriate training services to actual and potential workers and employers in the informal economy in order to improve their living and working conditions.

Specific objectives

Projects should cover the following specific objectives:

- Development of flexible training methods, curricula and activities, capable of responding to demand in informal labour markets and to the learning capacity and learning patterns of informal workers and employers (modular and short courses, for instance);
- Promotion of a participatory approach in the design and implementation of TVET services, involving representatives of the informal sector's workers and employers;
- Promotion of the recognition of qualifications and skills acquired outside formal institutions, namely through cooperation with formal education and TVET institutions;
- Exchange of good practice on demand-driven TVET for the informal sector, including needs assessment and information system practices, at local, national or regional level.

Expected results:

- Flexible training activities capable of responding to demand in informal labour markets and to the learning capacity and learning patterns of actual or potential informal workers and employers developed and implemented;
- Involvement of appropriate representative of workers and employers in the informal sector in the design and implementation of training activities promoted;
- Cooperation with education and formal TVET institutions (and policy makers) on the recognition of qualifications and skills acquired outside formal institutions started;
- Relevant experience and good practice in demand-driven TVET addressing the training needs of informal economy sector (actual and potential workers and employers) identified and exchanged;
- Information on local informal labour markets (including the most relevant professional skills and possible areas of improvement for self-employment activities and micro-/small enterprises) improved.

Eligible activities may include:

- training activities for the informal economy,
- development of methodologies and curricula,
- support for capacity-building among informal TVET actors,
- identification and planning activities, including needs assessment,
- development of information systems relevant to the design of demand-driven TVET for the informal economy,
- 'partner learning' activities (seminars, meetings, exchange of information and practices) for the exchange of best practice.

Priority will be given to projects targeting low-income countries and to transnational projects promoting the exchange and dissemination of good practice and leading to the implementation of pilot actions.

The ultimate beneficiaries of the actions are actual and potential workers and employers in the informal economy, both young and adult. Particular attention should be paid to promoting access by disadvantaged groups of young people and to the availability of training activities in rural areas. Gender equality will be a cross-cutting issue, also given the extent of female participation in the informal sector.

Partnership is strongly recommended so as to meet more efficiently the capacity building needs of non-State actors (NSAs). Full attention should also be paid to the quality of the partnership. Applicants from the EU and the EEA or a country eligible under the reciprocal

access rules must act in partnership with one or more organisations from countries eligible under the Development Cooperation Instrument. Public/private partnerships are encouraged.

3.3. Eligibility conditions

Actions may take place in countries eligible under the Development Cooperation Instrument.

Eligibility will be defined in the call guidelines, on the basis of Article 24 of the DCI and of the above objectives.

3.4. Essential selection and award criteria

The criteria for the award of grants are laid down in the Practical Guide to Contract Procedures for EC external actions.

The maximum rate of co-financing for grants is 80%. Full financing may be given only in cases provided for in Article 253 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulations where financing in full is essential to carry out the action in question.

Grants awarded under this call are expected to fall between EUR 300 000 and EUR 2 000 000.

The indicative duration of projects is three years maximum.

3.5. Schedule of call for proposals

The call for proposals is expected to be published in the second half of 2009 and in any case after the decision on the preliminary draft budget 2010.

3.6. Indicative amount of call for proposals

The budget for the call is EUR 8 million from 2009 appropriations. Subject to the adoption of the 2010 General Budget of the European Communities by the budgetary authority, an indicative amount of EUR 9 million from budget item 21.050102 of the 2010 budget will be added to finance selected projects under this call for proposals.

4. SUPPORT MEASURES

The selected projects will include a clear visibility and communication plan in accordance with the *Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions*⁸.

Monitoring and evaluation plans will also be foreseen in each project. European Commission Delegations will be involved as much as possible in the monitoring process.

In addition, projects might be subject to European Commission audits and monitoring visits under EuropeAid's annual results-oriented monitoring and audit plans.

The European Commission may hold a seminar to disseminate results and lessons learned among contract holders and other stakeholders.

⁸http://www.cc.cec/dgintranet/europeaid/info_com/visibility_issues/documents/communication_and_visibility_manual_en.pdf.

ANNEX I
THEMATIC PROGRAMME *INVESTING IN PEOPLE*
THEME 3: *GENDER EQUALITY*
CALL FOR PROPOSALS

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title	Supporting non-State actors in their efforts to fight adult female illiteracy and promoting women's property ownership		
Total cost	EUR 5 300 000		
Method/ Management mode	Project approach — Call for proposals — <i>Centralised management (direct)</i>		
DAC code	15164	Sector	Women's equality organisations and institutions

2. DESCRIPTION

The thematic programme 'Investing in People' pursues a broad approach to development and poverty reduction, with the general aim of improving human and social development levels in partner countries in accordance with the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It is based on Article 12 of the Development Cooperation Instrument DCI¹, and is detailed in the *Strategy Paper for the Thematic Programme 2007-2013*². The third theme of the programme is gender equality, which covers several objectives and notably actions to empower women, strengthen the capacities of civil society and women's organisations, and reduce female illiteracy.

In line with these objectives, a call for proposals entitled 'Supporting non-State actors in their efforts to fight adult female illiteracy and promoting women's property ownership' was launched in February 2009 to support non-State actors in their efforts to influence decision makers in these areas, especially by making use of linkages and cooperation through networks with other non-State actors working in the same areas. This call for proposals is intended to:

- (a) Support activities and efforts at national level to develop innovative approaches and strengthen the policy, advocacy and monitoring skills of non-State actors active in promoting women's property ownership and in eradicating female illiteracy.
- (b) Support action by, and the capacity of, non-State actors to cooperate and to forge alliances with other similar organisations to increase their influence on international and regional processes with regard to women's property ownership and female literacy.

These objectives were set for 2008 and 2009, so commitment appropriations under the 2009 budget for budget line 21.050104 (Gender equality) will be used to increase the total amount available for this call for proposals. The total maximum amount for this call will thus be EUR 7.874 million, i.e. EUR 2.574 million from 2008 appropriations plus EUR 5.3 million from 2009 appropriations.

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, OJ L 378, 27/12/2006, pp. 41-71.

² http://ec.europa.eu/development/policies/9interventionareas/humandev_en.cfm.

The addition of 2009 appropriations was referred to both in the guidelines for this call for proposals and in the 2008 Annual Action Programme (AAP). However, the amount referred to in the 2008 AAP (EUR 3.5 million) has been increased by EUR 1.8 million, following an amendment by the budgetary authority increasing the appropriations for budget line 21.050104. This part of the decision is therefore a 'regularisation' and forms an exception which will be duly reported in the authorising officer's report for 2009.

For further information, please see the full description given in Action Fiche L of the 2008 Annual Action Programme³.

³ http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/worldwide/health/index_en.htm.

ANNEX J
THEMATIC PROGRAMME *INVESTING IN PEOPLE*
THEME 3: *GENDER EQUALITY*
CALL FOR PROPOSALS

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title	Strengthening the capacity of non-State actors to promote women's rights and gender equality in the 10 Mediterranean ENPI countries: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Syria and Tunisia, and Mauritania (a Member of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership)		
Total cost	EUR 7 800 000 EUR 4 300 000 under 2009 appropriation + EUR 3 500 000 (provisional ¹) under 2010 appropriation		
Method/Management mode	Project approach — Call for proposals — <i>Centralised management (direct)</i>		
DAC code	15164	Sector	Women's equality organisations and institutions

2. RATIONALE

The thematic Programme 'Investing in People' pursues a broad approach to development and poverty reduction, with the general aim of improving human and social development levels in partner countries in accordance with the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals. It is based on Article 12 of the Development Cooperation Instrument DCI², and is detailed in the *Strategy Paper for the Thematic Programme 2007-2013*³. The third theme of the programme is gender equality, which includes women's empowerment. It provides for a specific allocation to support capacity building of non-State actors (NSAs) engaged in promoting women's civil and political rights and economic and social empowerment, and in countering gender stereotypes in the Mediterranean countries covered by the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI). Most recently, with the adoption of the Guidelines on violence against women and girls and combating all forms of discrimination against them⁴, the EU has highlighted the importance to co-operate with third parties, including non-governmental organisations, to fighting against violence against women and combating impunity.

The Reports on Human Development and major studies carried out in the Southern Mediterranean countries and neighbouring regions have stressed that the status and role assigned to women are one of the main impediments to the development of these countries and regions. While these countries have ratified a number of regional and international human rights instruments and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination

¹ Subject to the adoption of 2010 budget.

² Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, OJ L378 of 27/12/2006, pp. 41-71.

³ http://ec.europa.eu/development/policies/9interventionareas/humandev_en.cfm.

⁴ www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cmsUpload/16173cor.en08.pdf

Against Women (CEDAW⁵) — albeit with reservations and interpretative declarations — and often co-operate with the relevant UN human rights Special Procedures⁶ and with the Universal Periodic Review mechanism, they have not fully incorporated international obligations with respect to women's civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights in their national systems, or fully implemented the relevant norms. Furthermore, the legal frameworks that they have set up to promote equality between women and men have not yet been fully applied. Promoting gender equality and women's rights is also at the heart of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. The Framework for Action on Strengthening the Role of Women in Society agreed at the Ministerial Conference held in Istanbul in 2006 comprises a comprehensive set of actions for the promotion of women's rights and gender equality in the civil, political, social, economic and cultural spheres. This recent process needs support, as do the specific commitments.

This Call for Proposals is intended to contribute to full implementation of the CEDAW and the Istanbul Framework for Action⁷ in the 10 Mediterranean countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Syria and Tunisia. Mauritania is also included, as a member of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

3.1. Basic act and financing source

Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, Article 12(2)(c).

This action will be financed from Article 21.0501 of the budget – Human and social development, item 21.050104 – Gender equality.

3.2. Objectives of the programme, fields of intervention/priorities for the year and expected results

Overall objective

The main objective of this call is to improve the capacity of non-State actors in the Mediterranean countries covered by the ENPI plus Mauritania to promote gender equality and women's rights.

Specific objectives

This call for proposals is intended to support full implementation of the CEDAW and the Istanbul Framework of Action, with particular attention to the following thematic priorities:

- support for civil society efforts to monitor and advocate the implementation of the Istanbul Framework of Action;
- support for civil society efforts to develop capacity, to monitor, raise awareness, educate and advocate the full implementation of the CEDAW and the lifting of reservations and interpretative declarations on the CEDAW, facilitate the implementation of the concluding observation of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against women;

⁵ Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/cedaw.htm>.

⁶ Such as the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women.

⁷ http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/euromed/women/docs/conclusions_1106.pdf.

- support for civil society in promoting gender equality and women's rights in local development and in supporting women's participation in local decision-making processes, peace negotiations and in post-conflict situations, in line with UN Security Council 1325 (2000) on women peace and security — this includes non-State actors; e.g. enabling non-State actors and women to engage in dialogue with relevant local authorities and stakeholders on local development, e.g. gender budgeting initiatives at local level, gender equality and women's rights in economic and social development of the areas, etc.;
- support for civil society efforts to counter gender stereotypes.

Expected results

Main results expected are:

- overall improvement in advocating and monitoring the implementation of the Istanbul Framework for Action and the CEDAW;
- strengthened civil society coordination, partnership and networking in promoting gender equality and the advancement of women's rights;
- improved knowledge and awareness among non-State actors and local authorities of linkages between gender equality and the local development agenda;
- improved civil society capacity to engage in dialogue with local authorities and other relevant stakeholders on gender and local development; improved participation of women in local development;
- improved awareness of gender stereotypes and improved image of women and men contributing to mindset changes.

Priority will be given to applicants from one of the following countries: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Syria and Tunisia.

Given the specific objectives of this call, priority will be given to actions led by non-State actors and local authorities in the country or countries of the action. This will also ensure a higher level of ownership and sustainability.

Partnership is strongly recommended so as to meet more efficiently the capacity building needs of NSAs. Attention must be paid to the quality of partnership. Applicants from the EU and the EEA or a country eligible under the reciprocal access rules must act in partnership with one or more organisations from the eligible country or countries where the action takes place. Partnership with neighbouring countries facing similar issues, especially Iran, Iraq and Yemen, is also encouraged so as to facilitate regional cross-fertilisation and exchange of best practices.

3.3. Eligibility conditions

Action must take place in the Mediterranean countries covered by the ENPI, namely: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Syria, Tunisia, plus Mauritania, as a member of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership.

Eligibility will be defined in the call guidelines, on the basis of Article 24 of the DCI and of the above objectives.

3.4. Selection criteria

The essential selection and award criteria for awarding grants are laid down in the 'Practical Guide to Contract Procedures for EC external actions'. In selecting proposals, efforts will be made to ensure geographical balance among the actions to be funded, and to seek a balance

between actions proposed by national applicants from the target countries and applicants from Member States of the European Economic Area (EEA) and of the European Union.

The maximum rate of co-financing for grants is 80%. Full financing may be given only in cases provided for in Article 253 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulations where financing in full is essential to carry out the action in question.

Grants awarded under this call are expected to fall between EUR 200 000 and EUR 1 000 000.

The indicative duration of projects is three years maximum.

3.5. Schedule of the call for proposals

The call for proposals is expected to be published in the second half of 2009 and in any case after the decision on the preliminary draft budget 2010.

3.6. Indicative amount of call for proposals

The budget for the call is EUR 4 300 000 from 2009 appropriations. Subject to the adoption of the 2010 General Budget of the European Communities by the budgetary authority, an indicative amount of EUR 3 500 000 will be added to finance selected projects under this call for proposals.

4. SUPPORT MEASURES

The selected projects will include a clear visibility and communication plan in accordance with the *Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions*.

Monitoring and evaluation plans will also be foreseen in each project. European Commission Delegations will be involved as much as possible in the monitoring process.

In addition, projects might be subject to European Commission audits and monitoring visits under EuropeAid's annual result-oriented monitoring and audit plans.

The European Commission may hold a seminar to disseminate results and lessons learned among contract holders and other stakeholders.

ANNEX K

THEMATIC PROGRAMME *INVESTING IN PEOPLE*THEME 4.1: *OTHER ASPECTS OF HUMAN AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT*
PROMOTING SOCIAL COHESION, EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title	Support for social inclusion and social protection of workers in the informal economy and of vulnerable groups at community level		
Total cost	EUR 20 000 000 EUR 10 000 000 under 2009 appropriation + EUR 10 000 000 (provisional ¹) under 2010 appropriation		
Method/ Management mode	Project approach — Call for proposals — <i>Centralised management (direct)</i>		
DAC code	16010	Sector	Social/welfare services

2. RATIONALE

The thematic programme ‘Investing in People’ pursues a broad approach to development and poverty reduction, with the general aim of improving human and social development levels in partner countries in accordance with the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals. It is based on Article 12 of the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)², and is detailed in the *Strategy Paper for the Thematic Programme 2007-2013*³. Part of the fourth theme of the programme – ‘Other aspects of human and social development’ – is dedicated to addressing inequalities and promoting social cohesion, fostering the ‘decent work’ agenda, and employment.

Following the European Consensus on Development⁴ and the communication *Promoting decent work for all*⁵, employment, social cohesion and decent work are high on the EU policy agenda. Achieving full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people, is now a firm target under Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 1⁶, confirming the international consensus on the importance of intervention on the labour market to improve the livelihoods of the poorest.

The previous years’ programming under this specific area addressed different aspects and levels of intervention. In 2007 and 2008 great emphasis was put on methodological approaches to measuring and evaluating social policies and informing policy-level decision-making⁷. The 2008 call for proposals focused on formal labour market information systems in low- and middle-income countries.

¹ Subject to the adoption of 2010 budget.

² Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, OJ L 378, 27/12/2006, pp. 41-71.

³ http://ec.europa.eu/development/policies/9interventionareas/humandev_en.cfm.

⁴ http://ec.europa.eu/development/policies/consensus_en.cfm.

⁵ http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/news/2006/may/com_2006_249_en.pdf.

⁶ 2005 UN Summit (MDG revision) and subsequent 2006 Ministerial Declaration of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

⁷ Through Investing in People, the EC is supporting, jointly with the ILO, the mitigation of the impact of trade liberalisation on decent work and the labour market, and devising ‘decent work’ indicators in a series of pilot countries. Another joint project with the ILO focuses on how to extend social protection coverage.

The 2009 call for proposals will focus on social inclusion of people excluded from the formal labour market and social protection schemes, targeting vulnerable groups and people working in the informal economy.

The concept of social inclusion and social protection includes the provision of an adequate level of income support with a link to the labour market and a better access to services, with a view to getting people into work and to providing those who remain outside the labour market with decent living conditions. The two components of productive employment and adequate social protection are part of the strategic objectives of the Decent Work Agenda. EU policies aim notably at the inclusion of vulnerable groups such as disabled persons, ethnic minorities and migrants. In the developing world, due regard should also be given to the informal economy, given its huge share of the economy in some countries. Protection of children and elderly persons should also be paid special attention.

Sector context

‘The informal economy’ is a general expression for economic activities that are not recorded in official statistics, do not entitle workers to any social security coverage and do not contribute to the State’s tax revenues. The informal economy is extremely varied. It includes very different situations, from undeclared work through subsistence agriculture outside the monetary economy, the urban informal sector (fast growing with urbanisation, restructuring and rationalisation in the public sector, and deregulation of labour markets in the private sector), and widespread family work, self-employment and micro-enterprises, to some forms of traditional unpaid work⁸.

In many poor countries the areas excluded are huge — the size of the official economy may be as small as 10-20 per cent of total employment, with extreme situations where the informal sector can account for up to 95% of working population (i.e. Zambia), and social protection schemes cover only people employed in the formal sector, very often only the public sector.

It is estimated that around 500 million people in the world now work in the informal economy. In situations where only a small minority can be included in the official economy, the probability of people — especially young people — finding an official job is extremely remote.

Thus, instead of being seen in a bad light, the informal economy now tends to be considered an income-generating labour opportunity for a very high percentage of the active population — very often the only opportunity. A general consensus can now be found at national and international level on providing the informal sector with financial and technical support, especially micro-enterprises and small producers, and on adopting policies that encourage and support self-employment and micro-entrepreneurship, in order to allow primary capital accumulation, helping people out of the poverty trap and towards social and economic inclusion.

Supplying workers in the informal sector with appropriate support can contribute to increasing opportunities for people to earn their livelihoods in various working activities and to eradicating poverty. Moreover, enhancing the productive potential of the informal sector, its employment and income-generating capacity can lead to expansion of the formal economy, and of declared and decent work.

⁸ Since the expression ‘the informal sector’ was introduced by the ILO in the 1970s, numerous studies have highlighted its great heterogeneity. Even today there is still no universally valid definition of the sector although it is possible to identify certain common characteristics. According to the ILO, the characteristic features of the informal sector are: a lack of safeguards provided by labour and social legislation; often restricted access to the market and to state subsidies; capital costs greater than those in the formal sector (because of higher interest rates); no separation of personal and business assets; personalised business relations; no written contracts; family work pays a major role (particularly in female and child labour); surpluses are often consumed and only partly re-invested.

Social protection is a relatively new theme in EU development cooperation despite being considered an important factor in alleviating poverty and achieving the MDGs in the recent Bourguignon report on the MDGs at midpoint. Sector Budget Support (SBS) programmes on social protection reform form part of the current EuropeAid project portfolio. A common general objective of these projects is increasing the coverage of the formal social protection system, and initiatives are based on the idea that social transfers can trigger off a virtuous circle of disposable income, consumption, production, and taxation, that can, over time, more than compensate for the initial expenditure in social transfers. In the draft policy statement prepared by OECD DAC Network on Poverty Reduction (POVNET) task teams on social protection and employment and the labour market (to be endorsed at the next OECD High-Level Meeting in May 2009), social protection is considered affordable and good value for money.

In the realm of food security, for instance, social transfers represent a way out from emergency action and a way to give poor farmers a sort of basic insurance that can offset unfavourable natural conditions, allow primary capital accumulation, help them out of the poverty trap, and give them a longer time frame for investment (e.g. in their children's education).

As to the other component of social and economic inclusion — employability and employment — particular attention has been paid to the informal economy in the Commission staff working paper on 'Promoting Employment through EU Development Cooperation'⁹.

In recent years, international development cooperation has run a variety of projects/programmes in this area at local community level, in many cases supporting local community initiatives, grass-roots and self-help movements and cooperatives with addressing social security and basic social service needs where there is a lack of formal social protection coverage, developing alternative social protection systems and services and local development programmes.

NGOs are strongly committed not only to these local activities, usually with small-scale projects, but also to advocacy aimed at governments, while international organisations have developed larger scale and more structured programmes, often involving central governments.

Since 2003, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) has been pursuing a campaign to extend social security. The ILO policy approach is aimed at the development of a basic social security package, comprising access to basic and essential health care, income security for children, some income assistance for poor and/or unemployed people, and income security via basic pensions for older and disabled people. For example, in India and Thailand technical assistance activities seek to extend old age and health insurance to the informal economy and the private sector.

The community-based approach (often referred to as CDD, community-driven development) is promoted by governments, multilateral agencies and NGOs alike. With some exceptions, the initiatives are usually small-scale.

Generally speaking, a community-based approach is focused on supporting participatory decision-making, local capacity-building, and community control of resources. The key elements of this approach are community empowerment, local government empowerment, accountability and transparency, and learning by doing. The main aims of the approach are to build long-term processes for sustainable poverty reduction and to change the culture of dependency. International experience has shown that, given these elements, interventions can create sustainable and wide-ranging impacts by mobilising communities and giving them the tools to become agents of their own development. Poor people have proved able to organise

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http://ec.europa.eu/development/icenter/repository/SEC_2007_495_EN_DOCUMENTDETRAVAIL_p_en.pdf.

effectively to identify community priorities and address local problems by working in partnership with local governments and other supportive institutions.

Community-based interventions have been also adopted to address vulnerable groups' issues inside a community, such as disability and ageing, including rehabilitation, education and vocational training, and income generation activities, building social capital and advocacy and policy reform. Other issues dealt with through community-based interventions include youth inclusion, rural and urban development, poverty reduction, basic service provision, micro-finance, nutrition programmes for mothers and infants and post-conflict recovery.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

3.1. Basic act and financing source

Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006, establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, Article 12(2)(d)(ii).

This action will be financed from Article 21.0501 of the budget: Human and social development, item 21.050103 (Other aspects of human and social development).

3.2. Objectives of the programme, fields of intervention/priorities for the year and expected results

Overall objective

The overall objective of the call for proposals is to contribute to poverty reduction for workers in the informal economy and vulnerable groups through the development of social services provision and social protection at community level, and to support the integration in the labour market of active groups of the population or, where appropriate, the provision of a basic income for a decent standard of living.

Projects should cover the following specific objectives:

- collect, exchange, transfer and disseminate good practices concerning community-level initiatives in the domain of social and economic inclusion;
- support capacity-building for local communities to identify their needs and to manage projects providing basic services and social protection to vulnerable groups, as well as supporting employability and economic inclusion;
- implement community-based initiatives on social protection and social services, including support for increasing employability and integration in the labour market.

Cooperation and partnerships between institutional and civil society actors should also be encouraged with a view to developing innovative, community-based schemes for social and economic inclusion and social protection for vulnerable groups and workers in the informal economy.

Expected results include:

- ‘partner learning’ activities to develop community-driven provision of services in the field of social protection, employability, and economic inclusion carried out;
- capacity of local communities to identify needs, implement and manage projects providing basic services and social protection to vulnerable groups, and, where applicable, support people’s employability improved;
- projects focused on community-driven provision of social protection and social services, including support for income-generating activities, implemented and evaluated.

Eligible activities may include:

- collection, exchange, transfer and dissemination of good practice concerning community-level interventions for the social inclusion of workers in the informal economy and vulnerable groups;
- capacity-building activities for local communities;
- local projects providing social services and social protection for vulnerable groups and workers in the informal sector, including pilot projects.

Projects should target in particular the most vulnerable groups of the population, such as elderly people, people with disabilities, children, ethnic minorities, and migrants. Gender equality will be a cross-cutting issue, also given the extent of female participation in the informal sector.

Priority will be given to projects targeting low-income countries and to transnational projects promoting the exchange and dissemination of good practice and leading to the implementation of pilot actions.

Partnership is strongly recommended so as to meet more efficiently the capacity building needs of non-State actors (NSAs). Full attention should also be paid to the quality of the partnership. Applicants from the EU and the EEA or a country eligible under the reciprocal access rules must act in partnership with one or more organisations from countries eligible under the Development Cooperation Instrument. Public/private partnerships are encouraged.

3.3. Eligibility conditions

Actions may take place in countries eligible under the Development Cooperation Instrument.

Eligibility will be defined in the call guidelines, on the basis of Article 24 of the DCI and of the above objectives.

3.4. Essential selection and award criteria

The criteria for the award of grants are laid down in the Practical Guide to Contract Procedures for EC external actions.

The maximum rate of co-financing for grants is 80%. Full financing may be given only in cases provided for in Article 253 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulations where financing in full is essential to carry out the action in question.

Grants awarded under this call are expected to fall between EUR 300 000 and EUR 2 000 000.

The indicative duration of projects is three years maximum.

3.5. Schedule of calls for proposals

The call for proposals is expected to be published in the second half of 2009 and in any case after the decision on the preliminary draft budget 2010.

3.6. Indicative amount of call for proposals

The budget for the call is EUR 10 million from 2009 appropriations. Subject to adoption of the 2010 General Budget of the European Communities by the budgetary authority, an indicative amount of EUR 10 million from budget item 21.050103 of the 2010 budget will be added to finance selected projects under this call for proposals.

4. SUPPORT MEASURES

The selected projects must include clear visibility and communication plan in accordance with the *Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions*¹⁰:

Monitoring and evaluation plans will also be foreseen in each project. European Commission Delegations will be involved as much as possible in the monitoring process.

In addition, projects might be subject to European Commission audits and monitoring visits under EuropeAid's annual results-oriented monitoring and audit plans.

The European Commission may hold a seminar to disseminate results and lessons learned between contract holders and other stakeholders or external evaluators.

¹⁰http://www.cc.cec/dgintranet/europeaid/info_com/visibility_issues/documents/communication_and_visibility_manual_en.pdf.

ANNEX L
THEMATIC PROGRAMME *INVESTING IN PEOPLE*

THEME 4.2: *OTHER ASPECTS OF HUMAN AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT*
PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH AND PROMOTION OF PARTICIPATION BY CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN DEVELOPMENT

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title	Children's Participation		
Total cost	EUR 11 000 000		
Method/Management mode	Project approach — Call for proposals — <i>Centralised management (direct)</i>		
DAC code	15162	Sector	Human Rights

2. RATIONALE

The thematic programme 'Investing in People' pursues a broad approach to development and poverty reduction, with the general aim of improving human and social development levels in partner countries in accordance with the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals. It is based on Article 12 of the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)¹, and is detailed in the *Strategy Paper for the Thematic Programme 2007-2013*². Part of the fourth theme of the programme – 'Other aspects of human and social development' – is dedicated to children's rights and more specifically to supporting (1) the identification and development of effective and representative models to involve children in development and in the implementation of policies affecting them, and (2) pilot programmes putting these models into context.

The 2006 Communication *Towards an EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child* laid the foundations for the EU's long-term strategy on children and proposed children's rights indicators and enhanced monitoring of existing actions on children. The importance of children's participation was further emphasised in other policy papers, *A Special Place for Children in EU External Action* and *The European Union's Action Plan on Children's Rights in External Action*³, as well as in the Council Conclusions of 22/05/08⁴. The policy framework clearly underlines the need for EU policies and programmes to contribute to giving children the opportunity to express their views and getting these views heard and taken into account by the relevant authorities. In relation to child participation, the policy is that the EU should:

1. Promote opportunities for children to acquire sufficient and adequate competencies and to strengthen their leadership, advocacy and negotiation skills, including through communication for empowerment, particularly by developing child communication and media strategies aimed at empowering children to claim their rights proactively.

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, OJ L378 of 27/12/2006, pp. 41-71.

² http://ec.europa.eu/development/policies/9interventionareas/humandev_en.cfm.

³ COM (2008)55 final and SEC (2008)136, http://ec.europa.eu/development/policies/9interventionareas/humandev/humandevchildren_en.cfm.

⁴ Council Conclusions on the promotion and protection of the rights of the child in the European Union's external action — the development and humanitarian dimensions, 26 May 08, DEVGEN 86 9497/08.

2. Support partnership and networking between existing children's organisations, including between organisations in the North and the South. To this end, the EU could consider strengthening the links between the EU development programmes and other relevant EU initiatives such as the Youth in Action 2007-2013 programme.
3. Enhance the capacity of authorities and planners to set up sustainable structures allowing effective children's participation.

These actions should follow a rights-based approach based on the principles enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and its two Optional Protocols⁵. They should enhance:

- actions embracing the *Millennium Declaration* that promote the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), the full implementation of the Cairo Agenda and the Beijing Platform for Action; and
- the UN Plan of Action *A World Fit for Children*⁶.

The CRC is the overarching policy framework for any intervention concerning children. It establishes four general principles that apply to all actions affecting children: non-discrimination (Article 2), the best interests of the child (Article 3), the right of the child to survival and development (Article 6) and respect for the views of the child (Article 12). Its guiding principles promote children's participation as integral to child protection and to children living a full and free life. Now that almost universal ratification of the CRC has been achieved, it is crucial to provide support with the next challenge, that of obtaining children's rights in practice in their daily lives.

The CRC's adoption has led to increasing involvement of professionals and community members resulting in projects supporting the implementation of the principles enshrined in the CRC involving children in research or service development. There are many examples of projects addressing education issues, HIV/AIDS prevention and support, hygiene and sanitation promotion, environmental protection and urban planning, together with other initiatives in the field of child protection aimed at reducing the risk of exploitation, violence and abuse. Some participation projects target specific groups of children and young people involved in the sex industry, or in warfare, or living on the streets, or living with problems arising from drug or alcohol misuse. The scope is vast, varied and difficult to quantify.

EC external action already includes the participation and networking of children and young people in some projects supported under the thematic programme on non-State actors, and through programmes in education and health, including sexual and reproductive health and rights –which has often prioritised actions in youth– and the fight against HIV/AIDS –which is coherent with the principle of Greater Involvement of People living with HIV/AIDS (GIPA). The EC has also been supporting youth exchanges and networking between EU and non-EU countries, through the European voluntary service and through programmes aimed at youth networking under the Youth in Action programme.

Additionally, there has been notional support for children's involvement in public decision-making. There are examples in every continent of projects based on these principles that promote children's participation in schools, community action, institutional change, health services, the media, advocacy, mentoring, democracy and good governance, and human rights, to name but a few. This interest in children's active involvement in all areas of public life is being stimulated by an increased understanding of children's development and abilities and by a changing understanding of a healthy, thriving community. This is one that recognises

⁵ On the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

⁶ Plan of Action 'A World Fit for Children' adopted at the conclusion of the UN Special Session on Children's Rights (UNGASS) in 2002.

the contribution that can be made by children and the dangers of young people having no stake in society, and accepts the concept of children's citizenship as fundamental to modern social development at community level. Citizenship brings rights to expression, decision-making, information and association, the building blocks of the CRC; at the same time, it ensures greater relevance of actions supporting the realisation of children rights.

There has, however, been little coordination of this work across sectors, between organisations or from country to country. The approach has been sporadic and ad hoc, with little consistency in the methods used or the dissemination of results.

The CRC reporting mechanisms, including the preparatory and follow-up processes, provide for partnership with non-State actors partly through inviting non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and specialised agencies to submit additional reports on the implementation of the CRC falling within the scope of their activities. This has resulted in the creation or strengthening of national coalitions that could benefit from improved integration, participation and ownership — also through improved child participation.

Through all the international mechanisms and practices, a need has emerged to create, improve and strengthen structures, outreach and the involvement of formal constituencies representing children to achieve greater relevance, consistency, ownership and accountability in supporting the fulfilment of children's rights.

This has led to a productive dialogue and cooperation between national and international organisations and the development by some agencies of child participation methodologies and standards. The standards aim for consistent and sustainable, high-quality child participation and child participation practices. Besides fostering a safe and appropriate environment for child participation, they can provide a basis for improved accountability. Nevertheless, there is a need for a far more coherent and systematic approach to children's participation that recognises children as actors to be involved at all stages of developments affecting the realisation of their rights.

UNICEF has compiled a web-based *Child and Youth Participation Resource Guide*⁷ in response to demand from practitioners, project managers, UN and donor agencies for access to information on the diverse literature available on the subject. It presents resources on model projects on child and youth participation and lessons learned for those embarking on child participation work. The implementation guidelines of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child also give clear guidance on how to ensure meaningful child participation.

In addition, UNICEF is currently in the process of developing a comprehensive Child's Rights Toolkit and a Learning Package that will assist relevant stakeholders by endorsing rights-based programming in development aid, with financing from the Investing in People programme.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSAL(S)

3.1. Basic act and financing source

Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006, establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, Article 12(2) (d) (iii).

This action will be financed from Article 21.0501 of the Budget — Human and social development, item 21.050103 (Other aspects of human and social development)

⁷ http://www.unicef.org/adolescence/cypguide/index_intro.html

3.2. Objectives of the programme, fields of intervention/priorities for the year and expected results

Overall objective

The call will support children⁸ in playing a leading role in their own development and the development of their communities, at the same time creating a strong base for meaningful child participation at local, national and regional levels.

Specific objectives

Projects should aim at supporting children to effectively network, participate and become directly represented in relevant local, national and regional decision-making and follow-up processes, including the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes on issues affecting their ability to obtain their rights. Consequently, the call will foster genuine child participation and leadership in sustainable programme interventions, advocacy actions and, to some extent, capacity building.

Children will be the final beneficiaries and target group for this call for proposals. The call will also target stakeholders promoting relevant, inclusive and meaningful child participation in actions aimed at the fulfilment of children rights and addressing related challenges. Young people over 18 years old will be considered stakeholders, especially in projects where they support synergies and fruitful exchanges with relevant youth movements and programmes. Priority will be given to applications targeting children living in the most deprived communities, belonging to minorities or to the most vulnerable groups and/or children whose fundamental rights are most endangered.

Relevant priorities and activities may include:

- Networking and representation: support activities aimed at networking and formal representation of children based on awareness and action as rights-holders. This could include activities aimed at formal representation through the formal education system and complementary actions targeting children out-of-school and/or with special attention to more vulnerable groups of children.
- Innovative approaches to create and/or strengthen the role and impact of sustainable local, regional and national formal fora representing children: activities aimed at strengthening constituencies' capacities for the meaningful inclusion of child representatives', and formal frameworks of effective influence in child-related local and national policies. Special consideration should be given to children's participation in the preparatory, reporting and follow-up phases of the CRC country progress reports.
- Communication for empowerment: encourage action-led and child participatory communication strategies through appropriate channels at local, national and regional levels, in order to enable both children, as rights holders, and duty bearers to better understand children's rights and needs, and the processes that can effectively influence policies at local, national and regional levels.

Priority will be given to actions in developing countries and situations where children live in the most deprived communities, belong to minorities or to the most vulnerable groups and/or children whose fundamental rights are most endangered.

Priority will be given to action led by non-State actors, particularly those from the country or countries where the action takes place, so that children's involvement is rooted in relevant

⁸ People up to 18 years according to the CRC children's definition.

civil society actions. This will also ensure greater ownership and sustainability. Partnership is strongly recommended so as to meet more efficiently the capacity building needs of NSAs. Attention must be paid to the quality of the partnership. Applicants from the EU and the EEA or a country eligible under the reciprocal access rules must act in partnership with one or more organisations from the eligible beneficiary countries under the DCI.

3.3. Eligibility conditions

Actions may take place in one or several beneficiary countries eligible under the DCI.

Eligibility will be defined in the call guidelines, on the basis of Article 24 of the DCI and of the above objectives.

3.4. Essential selection and award criteria

The criteria for the award of grants are laid down in the Practical Guide to Contract Procedures for EC external actions.

The maximum rate of co-financing for grants is 80%. Full financing may be only in the cases provided for in Article 253 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation, where financing in full is essential to carry out the action in question.

Grants awarded under this call are expected to fall between EUR 250 000 and EUR 1 000 000. However, where the applicant has the nationality of a Member State of the EEA, the minimum threshold is EUR 400 000.

The indicative maximum duration of projects is three years.

3.5. Schedule of calls for proposals

The call for proposals is expected to be published in the first half of 2009.

3.6. Indicative amount of call for proposals

The total budget available for this call is EUR 11 million.

4. SUPPORT MEASURES

The selected projects will include a clear visibility and communication plan in accordance with the *Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions*⁹.

Monitoring and evaluation plans will also be foreseen in each project. European Commission Delegations will be involved as much as possible in the monitoring process. In addition, projects might be subject to European Commission audits and monitoring visits under EuropeAid's annual result-oriented monitoring and audit plans.

The European Commission may hold a seminar to disseminate results and lessons learned among contract holders and other stakeholders.

⁹ http://www.cc.cec/dgintranet/europeaid/info_com/visibility_issues/documents/communication_and_visibility_manual_en.pdf.

ANNEX M

THEMATIC PROGRAMME *INVESTING IN PEOPLE*

THEME 4.3: OTHER ASPECTS OF HUMAN AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
ACCESS TO LOCAL CULTURE, PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title	Access to local culture, protection and promotion of cultural diversity		
Total cost	EUR 5 400 000		
Method/ Management mode	Project approach — Call for proposals — <i>Centralised management (direct)</i>		
DAC code	16061	Sector	Culture and recreation

2. DESCRIPTION

The thematic programme ‘Investing in People’ pursues a broad approach to development and poverty reduction, with the general aim of improving human and social development levels in partner countries in accordance with the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals. It is based on Article 12 of the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)¹, and is further defined in the *Strategy Paper for the Thematic Programme 2007-2013*². Under the fourth theme of the programme – ‘Other aspects of human and social development’ – the action ‘Access to local culture, protection and promotion of cultural diversity’ has several objectives, among them promoting inter-cultural dialogue, cultural diversity and respect for the equal dignity of all cultures, encouraging respect for the social, cultural and spiritual values of indigenous peoples and minorities to enhance equality and justice in multi-ethnic societies, and supporting culture as a promising economic sector for development and growth.

A call for proposals entitled ‘Access to local culture, protection and promotion of cultural diversity’ was launched in February 2009 to support these objectives, and more specifically:

- (i) to strengthen local culture, access to culture and the dissemination of culture and, in exceptional cases, to support the protection of cultural heritage in imminent danger, and
- (ii) to promote all forms of cultural expression which contribute to the fight against discrimination, whether gender-based, ethnic, religious, or discrimination recognised in traditional and customary practices.

These objectives will continue to be supported in 2009. Therefore, commitment appropriations under the 2009 budget for item 21.050103 (Other aspects of human and social development) will be used to increase the total amount available for this call. The total amount for the call will therefore be EUR 12 700 000, i.e. EUR 7 300 000 from 2008

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, OJ L 378, 27/12/2006, pp. 41-71.

² http://ec.europa.eu/development/policies/9interventionareas/humandev_en.cfm.

appropriations plus EUR 5 400 000 from 2009 appropriations. The addition of 2009 credits was referred to in the guidelines for this call for proposals, but not in the 2008 Annual Action Programme (AAP). This part of the decision is therefore a 'regularisation' and constitutes an exception which will be duly reported in the authorising officer's report for 2009.

For further information, please refer to the full description given in Action Fiche M of the 2008 Action Programme³, and the guidelines for the call for proposals.

³ http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/ap/aap/2008_en.htm .

ANNEX N

THEMATIC PROGRAMME *INVESTING IN PEOPLE*THEME 4.3: *OTHER ASPECTS OF HUMAN AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**ACCESS TO LOCAL CULTURE, PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY*

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title	Rehabilitation of cultural heritage in old Havana (Palacio del Segundo Cabo)		
Total cost	Total cost: EUR 1 265 000 EC contribution: EUR 1 100 000		
Method/ Management mode	Project approach – Joint management with an international organisation (UNESCO)		
DAC code	16061	Sector	Culture and recreation

2. RATIONALE

2.1. Sector context

The thematic Programme ‘Investing in People’ pursues a broad approach to development and poverty reduction, with the general aim of improving human and social development levels in partner countries in accordance with the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals. It is based on Article 12 of the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)¹, and is detailed in the *Strategy Paper for the Thematic Programme 2007-2013*². The fourth theme of the programme – ‘Other aspects of human and social development’ – includes the sub-theme ‘Access to local culture, protection and promotion of cultural diversity’. Some of its objectives are to strengthen and provide access to local culture, to disseminate it in the EU or partner countries and, in exceptional cases, to provide support for saving cultural heritage in imminent danger.

Under the Convention of 1972, ratified by Cuba in 1981, the Old City of Havana and its Fortifications have been on the World Heritage List since 1982. The *Palacio del Segundo Cabo* building is a national protected landmark.

After decades of inadequate attention and funding, the restoration and rehabilitation works for Old Havana and its fortifications were entrusted via an exclusive mandate to the Office of the Historian of the City of Havana (*Oficina del Historiador de la Ciudad de la Havana*). The creation and mandate of the Historian’s Office demonstrate Cuba’s commitment to preserving its extraordinary cultural heritage, including heritage from the colonial past, using the approach of integrating heritage preservation with the development of tourism and socio-economic and cultural development.

The Office of the Historian is considered an overall framework for the social improvement of Old Havana, a holding or heritage trust, a complex of economic and cultural branches interacting over several preservation and new projects including international cooperation partnerships. It has developed an Integrated Management Plan or ‘Master Plan’ for the Restoration of Old Havana and its fortifications. The Plan has an emphasis on socio-economic

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation, OJ L 378, 27/12/2006, pp. 41-71.

² http://ec.europa.eu/development/policies/9interventionareas/humandev_en.cfm.

and cultural development and integration of the population, especially children, elderly and handicapped people.

The Palacio del Segundo Cabo is one of the most relevant Cuban Baroque buildings facing the Plaza de Armas, situated in between the Real Fuerza Castle and the Capitanes Generales Palace. It is part of a complex of outstanding public buildings creating the atmosphere of la Plaza de Armas, which is considered the most relevant civil space created by the end of the eighteenth century. The building covers 1857 square metres on two levels and a partial mezzanine. It is characterized by its baroque formal expression and expressive stone arches and it is classified as protection degree 1.

The Palacio was built under Military Engineer Antonio Fernandez de Trevejos as the ‘Casa de Administration de Correos de la Isla’ from 1770/1791. By the beginning of the twentieth century it had been significantly changed. The palace housed the Senate and later the Supreme Court of Justice. Later it hosted the Cuban Academy of History and then the Cuban Academy of History, Arts, Letters and Language. In early 1960s the most recent building works were carried out to house the Cuban Book Institute.

The Palacio de Segundo Cabo has seen its splendour diminished and unless restoration work is rapidly started, there is a serious risk of deterioration due to poor structural conditions, mistreatment and overexploitation and the legacy of hurricanes Gustav and Ike.

After restoration the building will become part of the museum system of the Office of the Historian of the City of Havana, which will therefore be responsible for its public use, management and running costs.

EC support will enhance the landmark’s visibility and its restoration will benefit the city’s inhabitants, the institution that it will host and the millions of tourists who visit Old Havana.

2.2. Lessons learnt

This project will be the first project financed under the ‘Investing in People’ thematic programme in Cuba. It builds on past experiences and lessons learnt from other EC-funded programmes on cultural heritage such as the Euromed Heritage regional programme. Since 1998 the Euromed Heritage regional programme has committed a total of EUR 57 million to fund partnerships between conservation experts and heritage institutions from the countries of the Mediterranean region. The programme aims mainly at creating heritage inventories and supporting networking between museums and other cultural institutions, increasing Mediterranean countries’ capacity to manage and develop their cultural heritage with a special focus on intangible heritage, and facilitating people’s appropriation of their own national and regional cultural legacy through easier access to education and knowledge of cultural heritage.

With regard to the capacity of the beneficiary country and institutions, earlier cooperation with Cuba has shown that public entities have a very clear mandate and a high degree of professionalism.

2.3. Complementary actions

EC-Cuba cooperation was suspended by Cuba in 2003, following diplomatic measures by the EU. These measures were lifted by Council conclusions of 23 June 2008, and a declaration resuming EC-Cuba cooperation was signed by Commissioner Louis Michel and the Cuban Minister of Foreign Affairs on 23 October 2008. Given that no programming framework has been drafted at this stage, the parties have agreed to jointly identify priorities for future cooperation based on respective development policy priorities and coordination with other

development partners in Cuba. Besides culture, the areas of intervention include the environment, food security, and post-hurricane emergency and rehabilitation.

2.4. Donor coordination

In addition to the newly resumed cooperation between Cuba and the European Commission in a certain number of areas, Spain and Belgium have active bilateral cooperation programmes ongoing in Cuba. In this context, Belgium finances projects on cultural heritage and confirmed the very professional approach and capabilities of the Cuba's Office of the Historian.

2.5. Objectives

The general objective of the project is to provide support for saving cultural heritage in imminent danger in Havana city centre.

The specific objective is to contribute to the recovery of the historic, cultural and heritage values of a landmark facing the main square of the historic city centre of Havana, i.e. to contribute to the rehabilitation and restoration of the Palacio del Segundo Cabo for its new cultural use (Protection degree 1).

The project will support essential restoration and rehabilitation works, and the cultural/social component linked to the future use of the building.

The Palacio del Segundo Cabo will be open to the general public due to its high level of heritage value and its architectural grandeur. The landmark will host namely a Library of Cuban National Art for connoisseurs, exhibition galleries, historic etchings, copper plates, maps and other historic documents from the Archives of the Historic Centre, exhibitions of manuscripts, *ex-libris* and incunabular collections, and, in contrast, a contemporary interactive media centre focused on design and art illustrations for books. The possibility of creating a database with information on European museums and art venues is currently being considered. There would be computers available for visitors to consult it.

2.6. Expected results and main activities

Results:

- full rehabilitation and restoration of the Palace;
- Cuban National Art Library and cultural Centre created and equipped;
- exhibition galleries of archive material created and equipped.

Activities:

- repair all failures in structural elements and voids,
- repair and seal roofing insulation,
- renew electric and water piping systems,
- restore stone, mortar surfaces and overall finishes,
- restore woodwork,
- refurbish and equip all library areas,
- create new posts for exhibition areas, offices and services.

2.7. Risks and assumptions

Successful implementation of the project relies on the following assumptions:

- no major meteorological phenomenon will delay implementation or divert regular material supplies;
- availability of equipment, materials, and related resources is planned with no disturbance to works once in progress.

2.8. Cross-cutting issues

The mission of the Historian's Office to safeguard the heritage of Old Havana extends well beyond physical reconstruction and encompasses the environmental and social fabric of the City. The Master Plan for reconstruction was drafted with a view to environmental sustainability.

Additionally, social activities undertaken for the benefit of the 70 000 inhabitants and of visitors in the context of cultural programmes in Old Havana are designed with specific attention to gender.

3. STAKEHOLDERS

➤ The Historian's Office

Awareness of the values of Old Havana and the need for its conservation is partly due to the Office of the Historian of the City. Founded in 1938, the Historian Emilio Roig worked for the protection of historic values, and the recovery of landmarks and historic sites of the city as signs of historic national identity. Since 1959 the Office of the Historian has been fully recognised and supported to safeguard Cuba's heritage. Reinforced by decree-law 143/93, the main mission of the Office of the Historian of the City of Havana is to safeguard heritage at large, including the physical, environmental and social fabric, with emphasis on movable and immovable property.

➤ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)

The first UNESCO office created out of the Paris Headquarters, UNESCO Havana was opened in 1950, operating first as the UNESCO Office for the western hemisphere and from 1972 as the Regional Office for Culture in Latin America and the Caribbean; at the same time it is the Representation Office for Cuba and the Dominican Republic and the Cluster Office for the Latin Caribbean (also including Aruba and Haiti). Several regional projects are conducted in a variety of fields in culture and specifically on cultural heritage.

The UNESCO Office in Havana has long-standing and effective cooperation with Cuban institutions including the Ministry of Culture and the Office of the Historian. It is fully staffed, including an administrative unit and professionals in conservation and restoration, and well equipped to implement this project.

➤ Population at large, foreign visitors

With nearly 70 000 inhabitants, Old Havana is among the municipalities with the highest density of population in Cuba. Schools, libraries and museums are very active, most of them with daily cultural programmes, focused mostly on youth and children. Key stakeholders are local residents, students and the increasing numbers of tourists. The elderly are one of the target groups and many new social activities have been designed taking into account gender and vulnerable group disparities, including economic differences. The Office of the Historian has worked towards strengthening the social fabric and reconstructing cultural historic associations. When dealing with a landmark such as Palacio del Segundo Cabo, some key issues as cultural entertainment and learning will be enhanced.

4. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

4.1. Method of implementation

The project will be implemented in joint management with UNESCO, through a contribution agreement, in line with provisions of the Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement signed between the European Commission and the UN³.

4.2. Procurement and grant award procedures

All contracts implementing the action must be awarded and implemented in accordance with the procedures and standard documents laid down and published by the international organisation concerned.

4.3. Budget and time-frame

The estimated budget breakdown is as follows:

Architecture and civil construction works	EUR 920 000
Contingency reserve for works	EUR 100 000
Cultural use of the building	EUR 145 000
UNESCO management fee (7%)	EUR 70 000
Evaluation, verification and visibility	EUR 30 000
TOTAL COST	EUR 1 265 000
EC contribution	EUR 1 100 000
Financial contribution from Oficina del Historiador	EUR 120 000
Estimated contribution from UNESCO	EUR 45 000

The Oficina del Historiador will provide an important additional contribution in kind, notably through manpower and materials. The contribution of UNESCO will be allocated to additional activities under the cultural component of the project.

The indicative duration of the project is estimated at 36 months.

4.4. Performance monitoring

Regular monitoring activities are foreseen in order to ensure activities are on track and in line with the defined results and objectives, both in terms of quality and timing.

4.5. Evaluation and audit

A final project evaluation by independent experts will be undertaken. Upon request, all relevant financial information will be made available to the EC, which may undertake a financial check in line with provisions of the Financial and Administrative Framework

³ http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/implementation/international_organisations/documents/f3_un_fafa_en.pdf.

Agreement signed between the European Commission and the UN. Monitoring visits will be performed by the European Commission Delegation in Cuba.

4.6. Communication and visibility

Appropriate activities and measures will be undertaken both by the Cuban counterparts and by UNESCO in order to ensure sufficient EC visibility.

All project communication will be in compliance with the *Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions*⁴.

⁴ http://www.cc.cec/dgintranet/europeaid/info_com/visibility_issues/documents/communication_and_visibility_manual_en.pdf.

ANNEX O
THEMATIC PROGRAMME *INVESTING IN PEOPLE*
SUPPORT MEASURES

1. IDENTIFICATION

Title/Number	Support measures for the programme		
Total cost	EUR 1 645 806		
Aid Method/ Management mode	Direct centralised management		
DAC code	n.a.	Sector	n.a.

2. DESCRIPTION

This amount is reserved for potential support measures for the programme (e.g. audits, evaluations, monitoring, studies, conferences, information and publication, etc.), as foreseen under Article 26 of the DCI Regulation, not exceeding EUR 200 000 each.

The total amount is distributed between the individual budget items as follows:

– Budget item 21 05 01 01 (Health)	EUR	295 806
– Budget item 21 05 01 02 (Education)	EUR	450 000
– Budget item 21 05 01 04 (Gender equality)	EUR	400 000
– Budget item 21 05 01 03 (Other aspects of human and social development)	EUR	500 000

For Budget item 21 05 01 02 (Education), the amount includes EUR 217 500 from the EUR 2 167 500 reserve placed by the Budgetary Authority on this budget item.

2.1. Method of implementation

Direct centralised management.

2.2. Procurement and grant award procedures

Procedures will be followed as laid down in EuropeAid's Practical Guide to Contract Procedures for EC external actions.